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[SIXPENCE.]

THE PROPERTY AND INCOME-TAX.

ALL countries are, and probably ever will be, impatient of taxation. The late Lord Castlereagh declared such impatience to be entirely the result of ignorance. There was, possibly, some truth in the statesman's remark. If all countries possessed a well-educated and a well-governed people, and if no taxes were imposed upon them that were not strictly just and strictly necessary, the "ignorant impatience" would entirely disappear, and taxation would be cheerfully borne. But, until that happy time, which, we fear, is not coming, taxation will rank among the number of the inevitable ills that states and communities are liable to; and statesmen will impose the taxes on the tyrant's plea of necessity, and the people will pay them with the usual growls against the Government and the collector.

Of all taxes, a Property and Income-tax was formerly considered the most unpopular. It was held that nothing but a state of war could justify it, and that it ought strictly to be reserved for those occasions of national peril in which other sources of taxation might prove inadequate to provide for the national safety. But a new faith on this subject has gradually arisen; and it was left to the sagacious mind and fearless patriotism of the lamented Sir Robert Peel to employ a Property and Income-tax in a time of profound peace, and to make it subservient to the best interests of an industrious and thriving people. Under its beneficial operation, trade and commerce have expanded; the burdens that weighed unduly upon the producing classes have been alleviated or removed; and the

national resources have been developed in a thousand ways that the most sanguine of statesmen and philosophers could scarcely have anticipated.

So firmly has the Property and Income-tax become rooted in our financial system that no one dreams of removing it. And yet the tax is by no means popular. Loud complaints are raised against it on every hand. By some it is condemned as inquisitorial; by others it is denounced as grossly partial; while among the earners of precarious and fluctuating income—as distinguished from permanent and realised property—there seems to be no epithet harsh enough to stigmatise its injustice. As it is the evident policy of the Government, no less than the interest of the people, that this paramount and essential tax, before it be finally fastened upon us, should be rendered as just and fair as it is possible for a tax to be, it may be well to inquire into the truth or untruth of the charges that are incessantly brought against it by some who pay and by many who evade it; and to point out the remedy for any real grievance or injustice that may be proved to exist in it.

And first of all of its inquisitorial nature. This is no doubt a nuisance. No man in business likes to expose his books, papers, and vouchers, to the prying and insolent curiosity of a fellow-parishioner who may happen, perchance, to be his rival in trade. No man likes to be trebly surcharged by pert malevolence, and to undergo the labour of months to prove that the surcharge is wrong. But we fear these evils are inherent in the tax, and do not lie at the door of the Government, but at that of the paid and unpaid functionaries without whose assistance its collection would be impossible. The Property and Income-tax shares the evil with the assessed and

other taxes, in the levying of which lynx-eyed collectors pry into the marks on our spoons or our hall chairs, or listen in our corridors for the barking of our dogs. But these things cannot be helped. There is not a tax that is levied that is not in some stage of its existence an inquisitorial one; and, upon the principle of enduring that which we cannot cure, we must make up our minds to the occasional impertinences of commissioners and collectors, and foil their arts by our own simplicity and uprightness.

The second objection to the tax is far more reasonable. We are convinced, indeed, that the objection is so strong and so just, that sooner or later the Government will be compelled to remove it. It was, or it appeared necessary that Sir Robert Peel, when, to meet a temporary emergency, he first imposed the tax, should gain the support of the lower stratum of the middle classes, and of all people of limited incomes. To effect this object he arbitrarily and unreasonably exempted from the operation of the tax all persons whose incomes fell short of £150 per annum. By this injustice he failed to attain the object for which he strove. He aroused on every side a sense of wrong. The man deriving a permanent income of £149 per annum from the Three per Cents, possibly a bachelor, with none but himself to feed and clothe, contributed not one farthing upon his property; while a poor clerk in a merchant's office, or in a banking-house—married, perhaps, with half a dozen children to maintain and educate—receiving £150 per annum, and dependent for that upon health, strength, capacity, caprice, and a thousand other minor circumstances, was mulcted of ninety shillings per annum. This affronted the common sense as well as the common



RAILWAYS IN INDIA.—EMBANKMENT FOR THE CALCUTTA RAILWAY, BEHIND THE TOWN OF SERAMPORE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

justice of the nation, and from that day to this has never ceased to afford valid arguments to the opponents of the tax. And it is not only because it offends the sense of right that this exemption is financially unwise. It allows a large source of available revenue to escape, and impoverishes the Treasury without the shadow of a justification. If the new Chancellor of the Exchequer shall extend the operation of the tax to all realised property whatsoever, he will inflict no injustice, and make no enemies; but very considerably increase the national resources. The extension of the Income-tax to fluctuating incomes of a less amount than £150 per annum, is simply a question of the cost of collection. In strict justice, all property and all income should be equally liable. But, if it be not worth the while of the Government to gather its per centages upon the weekly wages of clerks and workmen, it can draw the line at the point where collection ceases to be profitable.

The third and last objection to the Property and Income-tax is the most formidable, and enlists upon its side all the sympathies of the people. "Is it not monstrous," exclaim all those who gain their daily bread by the hard labour of their hands, or the still more severe and protracted labour of their intellect; "is it not monstrous," exclaim all professional men whose incomes depend upon health, strength, sanity, the changes of fashion, and the caprice of the public—to say nothing of life itself—"that we should pay three per cent upon our precarious earnings, which are here to-day and may be lost to-morrow; and that the man who has a realised property in land, in houses, or in the funds; in canals, in docks, in railways, or in water companies; and which is not dependent upon his health or his life, or upon the caprices of fashion, should pay no more?" A loud chorus of accountants and actuaries join the cry, and array in favour of the objection so formidable an amount of apparently unimpeachable figures, that plain men are bamboozled, and leave them and their figures in possession of the field. The actuaries build a beautiful superstructure upon a false foundation. They forget that the tax is not a prospective but a retrospective one, and that the Government does not seek to know, and has no right to know, what a man's professional income may be worth on the chances of a certain number of years during which he may live to earn it, but what amount of professional income he earned in the year immediately preceding that in which it asks him to pay his contribution to the necessities of the State. If he earned £1000 that year he must pay upon £1000, and those £1000 are as fair and equitable a subject of taxation as the £1000 that any non-professional man may have derived during the same period from his landed estates or from his investments in the funds. "True," says the professional man, "but my income has diminished, while that of the landed proprietor and fundholder has remained the same." The reply to this is, that if the income have diminished, the liability to the tax has diminished also, and that if this year he have earned but £500, he will have to pay but upon £500. Government cannot capitalize professional incomes, neither can it make any distinction for the purposes of taxation between the origin and sources of incomes. To do so would be to introduce confusion and injustice into our whole financial system, and to confiscate realised property for the supposed benefit of those who live by their daily or weekly earnings. If it were conceded that precarious income, because it is precarious income, should pay a less per-centage than fixed income in one particular tax that the state demands, it would be necessary to carry out the principle to every other item of taxation. The professional man ought, according to this mode of reasoning, to pay a lesser amount of House-tax, a lesser amount of every other assessed tax, a lesser amount of indirect taxation—less for his tea, less for his malt, less for his sugar, less for his wine, and less for his tobacco. To such absurd lengths are clear-headed actuaries carried when they reason on false premises, and build their palaces of figures like castles in the clouds.

The only solid objection to the Property and Income-tax is its limitation to incomes of £150 per annum. We trust Mr. Gladstone will have the courage, not only to remedy this defect, but to refuse to yield obedience to the popular clamour which seeks to establish a claim in the earners of income to pay less than their due share of the common burden.

RAILWAYS IN INDIA.—THE CALCUTTA RAILWAY.

This undertaking is but a portion of the vast enterprise which, it is asserted, but for Government interference, would have covered India with rails from Lahore to Cape Cormorin, and from Bombay to Calcutta.

The View engraved upon the preceding page, however, shows the early works of one of the most important lines, from a sketch by G. K. Ingelow, Esq.

It is taken on the embankment for the rails behind the town of Serampore, about fifteen miles from its commencement at Howrah (opposite Calcutta). Here is nothing but a cutting through the jungles, &c., and a raised embankment of from five to ten feet. The whole country is a dead level until the Rajmahal hills are approached. On the top of this embankment of earth, the engineers place about two feet of kunka (broken lumps of burnt clay), and on this the sleepers. This section of the embankment, at the date of the sketch, had been laid down several months; and it was to be allowed to remain in its present state until after the next rains, in order that its stability might be tested by its power of resisting the tremendous torrents of water which often inundate the plains of Bengal. Further sections have since been rapidly completed by the contractors.

The scene, with its luxuriant vegetation, is very picturesque. The large tree in the right hand foreground is a banyan, only one of the curious supports which this tree sends being here seen: beneath its branches is the tomb of a saint. On the other side are two of the grub trees; and beyond is a cocoa-nut tree, with the long feather-like leaves. The small boy in the foreground and the man in the distance are making twine; women are passing along the embankments with water-pots on their heads.

In a late number of *Lawson's Merchant's Magazine* we find the following interesting illustrations of the advantages of the application of the new power to this portion of our Indian possessions:—

We will take for instance the Bengal presidency, with the river conveyance. Delays take place from want of water, floods, rains, and monsoons. Take the case of the coal of Burdwan. The owners are unable to bring the coal down a direct distance of only seventy-five miles in less than two seasons, by the circuitous route of the river Damooda. The boats come from Ompta to the mines, only in July, August, and September, and the mineral remains the whole year until those months. Here nine months' interest may be lost. And in the case of the whole river traffic from Calcutta to the up country, the only passable channel for boats drawing five feet of water during nine months of the year—the smaller channels being closed—is by a circuitous route of 528 miles instead of 200, through a perilous labyrinth of creeks, and wood-encumbered straits, forming the wilderness called the Sunderbund. Thirty days are sometimes required for the passage from Calcutta to Rajmahal. Between Calcutta and Mirzapore, the passage is six weeks by water, and seven weeks by land. Further on we find the steamers sometimes occupy thirty-six days going from Calcutta to Allahabad, although the voyage is occasionally performed in eighteen days.

Now, in summer, the time of the river journey from Allahabad to Calcutta is about a week; in winter, a fortnight. If carried by rail at twelve miles an hour, the goods could be delivered with certainty in forty-eight hours. We have here a marvellous improvement in transit, which could be secured at a moderate outlay, the incidental advantages of which cannot be over-estimated. And amongst the chief of these advantages, is the capacity of bringing into the market the raw cotton of the interior, clean and undamaged.

THE BOOMERANG PROPELLER.—A trial of this invention was made by a steamship in the Mersey last week, when, notwithstanding many adverse circumstances, the average speed obtained in slack water was from 9 knots to 9½ knots, under a pressure of steam of from 6 lbs. to 9 lbs.; a speed which several scientific gentlemen on board asserted was one knot faster than could have been made by the common screw under the same pressure of steam. Messrs. McKean and McKlarty are having one of their Mediterranean steam-ships prepared for the trial of the new propeller, in "all its integrity."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Paris presents at this moment a curious spectacle. A stranger arriving in it would certainly be tempted to imagine that all the landlords had joined together to issue circular "notices to quit" to all the tenants; and, where they proved insensible to the hint, gave a broader one, by pulling down the houses about their ears. In every street, lane, and alley are you intercepted by horse-carts and hand-carts, trucks and barrows, porters and *commissionnaires*, bearing furniture, trunks, goods, and chattels of every sort, kind, and description; while masons and carpenters hardly wait till they are fairly ousted to knock down the buildings which contained them. In the April term there is always—more than at any other—a movement of this sort; but this year it has been increased ten-fold by two circumstances—the immense rise in rents, and the number of houses, and indeed whole streets, demolished by Government and by private proprietors. The former cause, if it be a sign of general prosperity (which in the present state of affairs we beg leave to doubt), is unquestionably a source of individual distress, and bitter are the complaints arising therefrom. Labour is not sufficiently abundant, sufficiently constant, nor sufficiently remunerated, to meet the increase of prices of lodging, food—every article, in short, of daily consumption. Among the poorer classes, thousands who contrived to earn just sufficient to support themselves and their families, now no longer find the fruits of their labour enough to accomplish the point; small *rentiers*—people who possessed little annuities—can no longer live on them; while among the *bourgeoisie*, a struggle to keep up appearances, to meet the passion for show and expense that since the establishment of the Empire has gradually increased to its utmost limits, goes on to an extent that would be ridiculous, were it not for the lamentable consequences that must of necessity ensue. To nothing does this remark apply so strongly as to dress. What say you, English husband and father, who grumble at the "little bills" of your wife's and daughter's dressmaker and milliner, when we tell you that the French husband and father, possessed of a property or employment that brings him in a yearly revenue of from £600 to £800, is told by Madame that she cannot possibly appear herself, nor take her daughters into society, without bedecking her own person in gowns of velvet, satin, gold and silver blonde, silks, *lamées d'or et d'argent*, with head-dresses to match; and her daughters in dresses, perhaps of comparatively simple materials, but so covered with trimmings that the making costs four times the price of the stuff, which is so light that it never survives a second, sometimes not a first, ball: it is computed that the dress of a woman of moderate fortune, who goes much into society, costs her on an average £20 a night. Add to this her visiting toilet, of brocade gowns, velvet cloaks, cachemere shawls, and bonnets with feathers and flowers—and then, oh, John Bull, bless your stars and your helpmate, that she does not ask you to convert your bank-notes into gauze and lace, and your sovereigns into spangles and tinsel for her embellishment. Ye English matrons, too—ye also have no less cause for thankfulness that your worse halves can take you into all society dressed in the homely, quiet fashion that sets well on the noblest form, and draws no ridicule on the meanest, instead of spending his money on a costume in which, in nine cases out of ten, the wearer looks and feels abashed, awkward, and absurd.

The Emperor's indisposition continues. It was caused, it appears, by an imprudence during the bitter cold winds which reigned a short time since. Having over-heated himself by rowing on the river, near St. Cloud, he remained seated inactive in the boat till thoroughly chilled; the consequence was, a violent derangement of the digestive organs, followed by great fatigue and lassitude, which still continue to affect him.

The return of M. St. Arnaud is shortly expected. His health, though much improved, is not yet restored; and he is, on his arrival, to place himself in the hands of Dr. Cabarrus, "le roi de l'homœopathie," and who is the cousin and physician of the Empress.

The condemnation, for swindling, of the Colonel De Sercey, a most brave and distinguished officer, has excited a great sensation here. He was, it appears, about to marry Mlle. Murat, thus becoming a family connection of the Emperor, and to be named General, when the discovery of the disgraceful transaction in question took place. M. De Sercey was known some years since, during a short stay in London, as a constant frequenter of Crookford's, where he played so high and with such little success, that only the aid of one of the members of the club enabled him to avoid the most unpleasant consequences, and return in safety to France.

The Pope has ended the politico-theological discussions of the French clergy by declaring in favour of M. Louis Veuillot and the *Univers*, and, consequently, against the Archbishop of Paris and his supporters. The matter is thus publicly ended, but not so the feelings to which the difference has given rise.

At the Gaité, "Marie Rose;" and at the Ambigu Comique—*ainsi nommé* because it always represents scenes of the most moving and *larmoyante* description—the "Château des Tilleuls" are the chief theatrical attractions of the moment. *Marie Rose* is the wife of a *mercier* at Marseilles: he adores her; but his adoration takes the unfortunate turn of intense jealousy, which one day finds food—with every appearance of reason, we must admit—in discovering in her hands a love-letter, most unmistakably addressed "à Marie Rose," a scene ensues, of which the result is that the heroine loses her reason. A child is born, whom *Ambroise*, the *Othello*, refuses to own, and she is sent away to be brought up by her grandmother. Arriving at the age of fourteen or fifteen, she learns a part of her mother's tragic history, and, being personally unknown to her father, contrives to obtain the place of servant to guard and tend *Marie Rose*, who, thanks to her tender and soothing care, recovers a gleam of reason. On the return of *M. de Simiane* (whose son has been the playfellow of *Mignonne*, the dutiful daughter), from India, all is explained; it was he who wrote the fatal letter to the godmother of the heroine, into whose hands it fell by accident: she is restored to her senses, and beholds the union of *Mignonne* with the young *Chevalier de Simiane*. In the "Château des Tilleuls" it is the hero who is mad; he, like *Marie Rose*, goes through a variety of trying incidents, more complicated and melodramatic, however, than hers; and, like her, recovers his senses in time to relieve the anxiety of the audience on his account, and to bid them a sane and satisfactory adieu.

The Emperor and Empress of France have not quitted the Tuileries for some days, owing to the indisposition of his Imperial Majesty. The Emperor has abandoned, for the present, his intended journey into Brittany.

The Government has caused a circular to be forwarded to the prefects, giving stringent orders regulating the future residences of political refugees.

The will of Napoleon I. has been brought from London to Paris by M. Charles Baudin, Secretary of the French Legation in London. The Emperor has decreed that this will should be deposited in the national archives. The Emperor has on this occasion addressed a letter of thanks to Lord Clarendon; and a gold snuff-box, with the Imperial initials in diamonds, has been sent to Mr. Dyke, the Queen's Procurator.

The fear of a Republican plot has extended to Paris—probably without any real foundation. Political arrests were made several times last week. Eighteen persons were arrested at Montmartre. Twenty-six officers and non-commissioned officers of the army of Paris have been arrested. The arrests were, it is said, caused by the seizure of some correspondence with the refugees of London, and by the distribution of printed papers emanating from them. The total number of arrests is about sixty.

The news of a Ministerial crisis in Madrid has excited much interest in Paris. General Narvaez, who, notwithstanding his recent pretences of illness, was well enough to appear at the ball of the Tuileries on Thursday se'night, is delighted with the danger that menaces his adversaries; and, should any events require his presence at Madrid, or place him in power again, the sooner all of them, high and low, get out of his way the better. But, whether the present Cabinet stand or fall, the crisis is not the less serious.

The case of the foreign correspondents came on on Tuesday before the Sixth Chamber of the Correctional Police Court. M. de Coetlogon, *Virmaitre*, and de Planhof repudiated very strongly the charge against them of belonging to a secret society. The Duke de Rovigo denied having any act, hand, or part in the libellous verses circulated on the occasion of the Emperor's marriage, and with reference to the Empress has declared that he was incapable of outraging a woman. M. Vallée did not appear on the prisoners' bench, as he had succeeded in effecting his escape from France. A considerable number of letters that had passed between M. de Coetlogon, *Virmaitre*, and the refugees in Belgium,

were read, and it appears that those letters were of the most insulting kind to the Emperor and the Empress. Extracts were also read from the correspondence of the *Nation* and the *Observateur*, both of which papers are published in Brussels, and with which it is alleged M. de Coetlogon and *Virmaitre* are connected. M. Duprés de La Salle addressed the Court for the prosecution. With reference to the Duke de Rovigo, he praised the sentiments that gentleman expressed about his being incapable of insulting or outraging a woman. The proceedings were carried on with closed doors, in consequence of the improper nature of the verses and other documents composed against the Empress. Few besides the counsel on both sides were admitted; and even M. Berryer, the *batonnier* of the Order of Advocates, was refused admission. The trial was resumed on Wednesday, when the name of the Count de Chambord was more than once mentioned during the proceedings. Letters from the Duke de Levis to M. de Coetlogon were read, one of which announced the transmission of 12,000*fr.* to carry on the *Corsaire*, the well-known satirical paper—the *Charivari*, in fact, of the Legitimist party. The *Corsaire* has been for some time suppressed by the Minister of Police.

One of the confidential agents of the Count de Chambord, and an ex-representative of the people, has just returned to Paris from a visit to the Prince at Venice. His report is favourable as regards the health of the Count and Countess. Nothing new is said respecting the fusion, except that we are still assured that the Princes of the Orleans family "appear to be well disposed." The blame is still laid on the Duchess of Orleans, who refuses to have anything to do with the fusionist movement. The Duchess prefers waiting till the Count de Paris has attained his majority, that he may decide in the matter himself.

An encyclical letter has arrived from the Pope to the Archbishops and Bishops of France, which gives a perfect victory to the Ultramontane press of France. The Archbishop of Paris, a Gallican divine of the school of Bossuet, had been so alarmed at the increasing audacity with which extreme Ultramontane doctrines were advocated by the *Univers*, that he prohibited all the clergy in his diocese from reading that journal, under pain of suspension. M. Louis Veuillot, the editor, appealed in person to the Pope; and his Holiness has unequivocally decided against Archbishop Sibour, who immediately hastened to withdraw his interdict against the *Univers*. In this letter, the Archbishops and Bishops are urgently entreated—

To extend all your benevolence and all your favour to the men who, animated with the Catholic spirit, and versed in letters and sciences, devote their days to write and publish books and journals for the diffusion and defence of Catholic doctrines, and for the dispersion of opinions and sentiments adverse to the Holy See and its authority. Your charity and your episcopal solicitude should then excite the ardour of Catholic writers animated with a good spirit, so that they may continue to defend the cause of Catholic truth with attention and with knowledge; and if, in writing, they should happen to err in any respect, you should admonish them with paternal words and prudence.

It is a question whether the publication of such a mandate is not in itself a violation of the right hitherto exercised by the State of France, to sanction and control all the communications addressed by the See of Rome to its subjects. Within the last few days it is said that the Pope has definitively refused to crown Louis Napoleon. He has now followed up this refusal, which is in itself not very flattering to a ruler whose army is at this moment in possession of the Papal dominions, by a manifesto such as no previous Government of France has endured, and which asserts in the most absolute terms the entire dependence of the Church in France on the unlimited authority of Rome.

The Bourse recovered in some measure on Wednesday from the depression of the previous day. The suspension of the sittings of the Spanish Cortes was not regarded as so alarming as it appeared on its first announcement. The Three per Cents opened at 80*fr.* 40*cs.*, rose to 80*fr.* 60*cs.*, and closed at 80*fr.* 50*cs.* for the end of the month. The Four-and-a-Half per Cents closed at 103*fr.* 35*cs.*

GERMANY.

House-searchings have not entirely ceased in connection with the lately discovered conspiracy; and, not only in Elbing and Breslau (nearly the two extremes of the kingdom), have they been prosecuted with success, but also in Bremen, Hanover, and Brunswick. A Dr. Ladendorf, one of the parties chiefly incriminated, has been apprehended near Frankfurt-on-the-Oder, whither he had escaped from Berlin. One of the worst features in these late detections is, that three gunners in the Spandau garrison were amongst the apprehended, charged with having manufactured the ammunition for the culprits; and in Hanover, where searching proceedings were instituted by the military authorities, a foot soldier was found guilty of distributing among his comrades copies of a seditious pamphlet published in Brussels. In Frankfurt the military have been for some time past under arms at their barracks every evening, and both the military and police forces are on the alert. There have been numerous arrests at Munich. A crowd of young men were seized by the gendarmerie, and carried off to the bureau of police, where they were speedily set at liberty without their hats, which were of the Calabrian figure. The watch of the city was doubled. The stretch of power by the Berlin police, in arbitrarily abolishing the great sick club without judicial process, was very ill received in the Prussian capital.

The *Urwähler Zeitung*, the organ of the extreme Radical party of Berlin, was brought to an untimely end by the arrest of its editor, Holdheim, in the course of last week; and the latter has been condemned to two months' imprisonment for bringing the Constitution into contempt by an article published by him in February last. To supply the place of the *Urwähler Zeitung*, a new paper on the same principles, called the *Volks Zeitung*, was launched on Saturday, but its course was arrested at the printer's door, where the whole impression of 12,000 was seized, and the editor arrested.

The Second Prussian Chamber has passed the last reading of the Peerage Bill. The members will henceforth be all nominated by the King.

A letter from Vienna, says—"The Emperor is to leave in a few days for Trieste and Venice. His Majesty will also visit Verona, where there will be a concentration of troops. Thence he will proceed to Ischl, where he intends residing some time. The Archduchess Sophia, and part of the Court, will also proceed to Ischl in the month of June. The King and Queen of Prussia and the Queen of Saxony are also expected there about the same time.

ITALY.

A letter from Rome states that the nominal capital of the loan contracted by the Roman Government with Messrs. Rothschild is eight millions of scudi at 4 per cent interest, and the price of 70.

Arrests continue to be made in Milan. The rumours of Radetzky's recall, and the adoption of a more lenient rule are unfounded.

The hostility of the Austrian authorities towards the English travelling in Italy has produced the results which were to be expected. Formerly Venice teemed with our countrymen, but during the winter hardly any have been seen there.

SPAIN.

The Cortes have been dissolved, and the Ministry have given in their resignations. The Senate assembled on the 7th, and resumed the discussion relative to railways. Several senators spoke at some length, and with much warmth. M. Pena y Aguayo made a sharp attack on the Ministry for its conduct in the elections; and his speech, contrasting with his ordinary moderation, produced great sensation. The Marquis del Duero attacked the Government for its proceedings relative to the press. On the 8th, everybody talked of the suspension of the sittings of the Cortes, and the senators and deputies hastened to their respective Chambers, to learn what the Government would do. At the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, the President of the Council read a Royal decree, by which the sittings of the Cortes were suspended for the session. The document was listened to in profound silence, and the deputies immediately retired. In the evening, the Ministers presented their resignation. The Queen replied that she would come to a decision on the subject in twenty-four hours.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid of the 12th announces the important fact of General Lersundi, the Captain-General of Madrid, having been commissioned to form a new Cabinet. The Cortes had resumed their meetings.

GREECE.

We hear from Athens that General Macryanni has been found guilty by a military court of conspiring against the lives of the King and Queen. Upon hearing the sentence the General entreated that he might be speedily executed. The judges, however, have earnestly recommended him to the Royal clemency.

RUSSIA.

According to advices of the 25th of March, from Odessa, warlike preparations against Turkey are carried on with great zeal. The preparations were hardly on such a grand scale in 1812; they extend even to Great Russia, and eight steamers are employed on the Volga in conveying troops to Kertsch. Even old soldiers, who have served 20 and 25 years, are again called under arms.

On the 26th ult. the great theatre at Moscow was burned to the

ground. The news of the fire was at once telegraphed to St. Petersburg, and the Czar's reply was, "Do not expose life to danger; save the surrounding houses."

TURKEY.

Accounts from Constantinople state that the arrival of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was anxiously expected by the Turkish Ulemas. Great mystery continued to hang over the mission of Prince Menschikoff. Russian gold was expended in profusion, the Prince having brought with him a sum of 300,000 half-imperials (about 30,000,000 piastres). While some think he wishes to negotiate a secret treaty with Turkey, like that of Unkiar Skelessi, others aver that Prince Menschikoff is instructed solely to treat on the question of the Holy Places. Russia pretends that the last firmans, according to the Latins, contain certain enactments contrary to the interest of the Greek Christians, regulated by treaties which Turkey some time ago entered into with her. She, consequently, demands that these concessions shall be examined and discussed, and become the subject of a new negotiation. The Porte is said to have endeavoured to get out of the affair by saying that what took place with respect to the Holy Places was indifferent to her, and by demanding of Russia and France to come to an understanding between themselves on the subject. But those Powers separately replied that the question did not rest between them, and that it was only with the Porte that they would or could treat. The Porte, thereupon, resolved to carry on the negotiations very slowly, in order to afford time to the Ambassadors of England and France, and even to the Ambassador of Austria, to arrive at Constantinople.

LATEST FROM CONSTANTINOPLE.

An important telegraphic despatch, dated Constantinople, April 2, states that Prince Menschikoff had made the following demands on behalf of the Russian Government:—

1. Respecting the Holy Places, he requires the repeal of the concessions in favour of the Roman Catholics made to M. Lavalette; but consented to modify his pretensions in such a manner that nothing should be decided without Russia.
2. The conclusion of an offensive and defensive treaty, according to the right to Russia to enter the Dardanelles for the defence of her ally.
3. The abandonment of certain tracts of territory in Georgia.
4. The suzerainty of Montenegro, whose independence would be recognised by the Porte.
5. The independence of the Oriental Christians in all matters relating to their creed.
6. The eventual military occupation of the Danubian provinces for the purpose of repressing the revolutionary spirit.

An amicable arrangement of the difficulties was hoped for, although Russia still continued her warlike preparations at Odessa and Sebastopol. No decision was anticipated before the arrival of the English and French Ambassadors.

PERSIA.

A grave misunderstanding has arisen between the Persian Court and the British Legation, relative to Herat, and a rupture was feared. Colonel Sheil, who was about to quit Teheran in a few days, on leave of absence, expected to take with him all the personnel of his legation. The cholera was advancing towards Teheran: it had reached Resht and Caslin, and had made ravages in those places.

AMERICA.

By the steam-ship *Baltic* we have advice from New York to the 2nd inst. Mrs. Fillmore, the wife of the ex-President, died at Washington, on the 30th ult. Mrs. Cass, wife of General Cass, had also expired.

Father Gavazzi is creating as great a *furor* in the States as he did in England. His first appearance there was quite successful, and up to the sailing of the steamer he had not only kept his position but advanced in popularity. His lectures are crowded, and enthusiastically received.

The strike among the working-classes for an advance of wages was spreading, and New York and other cities had been included in the list.

We have no news of importance from Washington, the President being still busied with the nominations. A report was current at Washington that the expedition to Japan would be abandoned, General Pierce deeming it useless and inexpedient, for the reason that it is not sufficiently strong to compel the Japanese to open their ports, and that the force of argument or treaty would be wholly ineffectual. The exploration of Behring's Straits must be postponed.

The Crystal Palace, intended for the World's Fair, in New York, is progressing, but not so fast as could be wished. It will hardly be ready by the time appointed for its opening, namely, May 1. The Queen and Prince Albert, the Emperor of the French, the Pope, and the Sultan intend to contribute. Thus far we have England down for 542 objects, France 326, the Zollverein 500, Holland 142. Italy sends 100 statues.

The steamer *Georgia* had arrived at New York with 1,882,530 dollars in gold-dust on freight. The accounts from the mines are most cheering. A lump of gold weighing 247 ounces had been picked up at Yankee Hill, near Sonora, valued at about 4250 dollars. It is said that three Mexicans had taken out upwards of 30,000 dollars in four days from a new claim near Churtsville. Two parties sank a hole on a claim near Campo Seco, and in five days they took out 5700 dollars worth of gold-dust. Gold-dust continued to be raised in Placerville in unprecedented quantities, and the weekly average purchased by the regular dealers and brought there, is reckoned at upwards of 70,000 ounces. Some beautiful specimens of rubies and emeralds have lately been found in California, and also a magnificent diamond of the first water.

We hear from South America that Buenos Ayres was still closely besieged by Urquiza.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Adria* has arrived at Trieste, and, by submarine telegraph, the following intelligence is received:—"There was no further intelligence from Burmah. The Governor-General had returned to Calcutta. Lord Falkland had dismissed two of the Sudder Judges. The weather at Calcutta was warm, and trade dull. Advice had been received from China down to the 25th of February. The rebellion was growing more and more formidable, and a complete panic prevailed at Peking."

NEW YORK EXHIBITION.—The Earl of Ellesmere is to be her Majesty's Commissioner to attend the Great Exhibition at New York. The appointment of a Royal Commissioner is a graceful act of courtesy towards the States; and the act will lose nothing in the hands of Lord Ellesmere (formerly Lord Leveson Gower), who unites, with great wealth and distinguished birth, popular manners, and the species of talent most serviceable in such a mission.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN FRANCE.—The clergy of the Roman Catholic Church in France is thus composed in the eighty seigns which form the circumscription of it:—15 archbishops, 65 bishops, 175 vicars-general, 661 canons, 3383 curés, 29,537 desservants of succursals, 6 chaplains for the three cemeteries of Paris, and 7190 vicars in the small communes. The personnel of the Protestant worship are 756 in number, 507 of whom are for the Reformed Church, and 249 for the Lutheran worship. In the Jewish Church there are 53 rabbis, and 61 officiating ministers. The church in Algeria is not included in this account.

TASTES DIFFER.—At Dresden, a member of the fair sex, one Louisa Otto, of Meissen, notorious for her democratic extravagance, has indicted, with the intention of publishing, a letter expressive of profound sympathy and admiration of Libeni, the regicide. A worthy in the Tyrol, on the other hand, has resolved to perform a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, in order to offer up thanksgivings for the Emperor's providential escape from the knife of this assassin.

NEW CARRIAGE FOR THE PACHA OF EGYPT.—During the week the bazaar of Mr. Jones's, Southampton, has been crowded with the nobility and gentry, for the purpose of viewing a new cariole carriage, made for the ruler of Egypt. The first impression conveyed to the eye is that of magnitude, combined with lightness and elegance. The body and carriage are of the great length of 15 feet, and the axle is 8 feet wide. As a whole the carriage is really a work of the highest mechanical art, embellished with the richest materials and with the most perfect taste, and will do honour to the reputation of the town for its simple manufacture, as well as to the honour of the party by whom it has been designed and executed. Mr. Jones deserves the greatest praise for this unequalled vehicle, which will, no doubt, highly gratify the Pacha, as it has done the nobility and gentry of Great Britain.

THE CASE OF MR. CRAWFORD.—We understand that an ample apology has been sent by the Tuscan authorities, through the Foreign Office, to Mr. Crawford, the English gentleman who was compelled to leave the dominions of the Grand Duke. The objection to Mr. Crawford's return to Tuscany has at the same time been withdrawn.—*Daily News.*

YANKEE LEVIATHANS.—An American paper states that an immense iron steam-ship is to be immediately built at New York. The saloon is to be 200 feet in length, with accommodation for 3000 passengers. There are to be 16 engines, with an aggregate power of 5000 horses. The maximum speed conferred, plated is 30 miles per hour, and it is calculated that the passage from New York to Liverpool will be performed in five days.—And, as a match for this giant steamer, another paper announces, that the activity of the shipping trade stimulates constant experiments and improvements; and a new sailing vessel is in course of construction at Boston of 4000 tons burden, to be called the *King of the Clippers.*

MUSIC.

NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The programme of the second concert, given in Exeter-hall on Wednesday night, in the presence of an immense auditory, contained some highly attractive items. The first production in this country of Cherubini's "Requiem," which on the Continent enjoys a reputation in no way inferior to the famed work of Mozart, would alone have stamped this concert as one highly honourable to the judgment and taste of the directors; but we had, in addition, Beethoven's Symphony in A, and his passionate Piano-forte Concerto in E flat—one eternal love-song from the first bar to the last; besides two overtures in very opposite schools—Lindpaintner's "Faust," and Rossini's "Siege of Corinth." The vocal portion of the scheme was confined to the scena from Mendelssohn's "Lorely," and to the scena from John Barnett's "Fair Rosamond;" both sung by Miss Louisa Pyne—the latter with considerable effect; the former being beyond her dramatic powers, and requiring a Viardot, a Cruvelli, or a Fiorentini, adequately to carry out the composer's intentions. It was a graceful compliment to the gifted composer of the "Mountain Sylph" and "Fari-nelli" to present one of his vocal compositions. The scena from "Fair Rosamond" is exceedingly well conceived, particularly in the accompanied recitative, the orchestration of which is admirable.

The *tutti* in the concerto and the symphony afforded the amateurs the occasion to appreciate the precision and accuracy with which Lindpaintner, the conductor, wields the baton; but, as a colourist, he is singularly deficient; and something more is expected than the regularity of the clock-like metronome in the conduct of a large work. Lindpaintner is cold and passionless, and failed to inspire his forces with the sentiment and animation of the composer's conceptions, masterly as was the mechanism in its unity. M. Billet, the pianist, comes as a player under the same category as Lindpaintner as a conductor. His reading of the concerto was correct; the manipulation was excellent; there was no lack of delicacy; and, altogether, it was a very able bit of pianoforte playing; but still, it lacked the grandeur, breadth, and intensity of an exultant of kindred genius with the composer. The allegretto in A minor of the symphony was encored. Lindpaintner's own overture—very Weberian and Spohrish, and very patchy, incoherent, and fragmentary—was wonderfully played by the band, who took the movements with an irresistible impetuosity which carried the hall by storm in point of enthusiasm.

The "Requiem" of Cherubini calls for an essay, and not for a passing notice: the space at our disposal is most inadequate to do justice to one of the grandest conceptions of any musician. Its gravity, its solemnity, its loftiness, its dignity, and its pathos, are unsurpassed: it makes the hearer think as well as feel. Like the "Requiem" of Mozart, Cherubini's work was heard under the greatest disadvantage of the religious service, but the auditory seemed not the less imbued with the affecting and sublime strains, in which are centred all the greatest resources of art, with a devotional imagination of the highest order. For a first reading the execution was creditable, but it is a long way off the right interpretation as yet. The name of Cherubini is scarcely yet known to this country. Independently of the genius manifested in his church music, he has written symphonies, overtures, and chamber compositions of infinite interest and vast importance, and there are some of his lyric productions, as we have pointed out on other occasions, well worthy of being mounted at the Royal Italian Opera.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Under the title of the Orchestral Union, a band of very able players—including Mr. Mellon as conductor, Mr. Cooper as leader, Messrs. C. and T. Harper, Dando, Hatton, Hill, Howell, K. S. Pratten, Nicholson, W. F. Reed, Trud, Webb, Winterbottom, Zerbini, Maycock, Horton, Wilson, &c.—commenced, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Saturday last, a series of three morning concerts, for the performance of the great instrumental works of the best masters. Mozart's Symphony in G minor, Mendelssohn's "Son and Stranger" overture, W. S. Bennett's overture to the "Naiades," and Auber's "Domino Noir" overture, besides Spohr's violin concerto No. 11, played by Mr. Cooper, were included in the programme, which was relieved by the singing of Mr. and Mrs. Weiss. This undertaking, begun with modest proportions, for its excellence, bids fair to take, in time, a prominent position amongst our musical institutions, if the instrumentalists act with harmony and judgment.

Herr Jansa's fourth soiree took place on Monday, at the Queen Anne-street Rooms; aided by Herren Hennen, Goffrie; the German Vocal Quartet Union; Mr. W. F. Reed (violin-cello), Miss Bigg (pianist).

Mr. George Case had a monster concert at Exeter-hall, last Monday. The solo instrumentalists were Mdlle. Coulon, Miss Ellen Day, Miss Case, M. Billet, Herr Gollmick; and Mr. Kiallmark (piano), Mr. Pratten (flute), Mr. Sainton (violin), Mr. F. Chatterton (harp), Bottesini and Howell (double bass), Mr. Lazarus (clarinet), Mr. Jarrett (horn), Mr. T. Harper (trumpet), Mr. G. Case (concertina), and the Distins (Saxhorns). There was a band of about fifty players. The vocalists were:—Miss Louisa Pyne, Madame Neddin, Mdlle. Anna Zerr, Mdlle. Favanti, Mrs. Sims Reeves; Messrs C. Nott, Ransford, Poole, Rose Braham, Messent, L. Stuart, Lascelles, Mac Alpine, Brougham; Madame Doria; Messrs. Sims Reeves, G. Tedder, Perren, T. Williams, C. Cotton, Genge, Young, Drayton, F. Smith, Manley, and F. Bodda.

The Western Madrigal Society—which, thanks to the tact and zeal of the president, J. Evans, Esq., is in a prosperous condition—celebrated its anniversary festival in Freemasons'-hall, on the 6th inst. As usual, there was an excellent selection from the works of the ancient masters, and several encores took place. The attendance both of professors and amateurs, besides the ladies in the gallery, was large.

The Quartet Association held its first meeting at Willis's Rooms on Thursday afternoon, in the presence of a numerous and fashionable assemblage of connoisseurs. Sainton, Cooper, Hill, and Fiatti formed the party—professors of too well-known ability to require any eulogium here. Miss Arabella Goddard was the pianist. The performance of this young pianist of Beethoven's Sonata in B flat was one of the most remarkable displays of execution of the present season. Miss A. Goddard has taken the highest position by her masterly display.

Handel's "Israel in Egypt" was performed last night at Exeter-hall by the Sacred Harmonic Society, under Costa's direction; the principal vocalists being Mdlle. Clara Novello, Miss F. Rowland, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Staudigl, and Formés.

Handel's "Alexander's Feast," Macfarren's "Lenora," a selection from "Acis and Galatea," a pianoforte concert, to be executed by Miss Arabella Goddard, and a new overture, are the features in Monday's concert of the Harmonic Union, under Benedict's direction.—The third Philharmonic Concert, and the second meeting of the Musical Union, are also in next week's list of engagements for the amateurs.

Mr. Harry Lee Carter, an amateur well known in the musical circles for his varied accomplishments, produced a new entertainment at the Marionette Theatre, on Wednesday night, under the title of "The Two Lands of Gold." This undertaking is based on more attractive themes than those chosen by Mr. Carter at Willis's Rooms last season; and, as there is a pretty panorama of views, both in California and Australia, his present lecture with accompanying songs—the music by Mr. Henry Russell—is much more entertaining.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The modern Italian comic opera appears to have no stronghold on the musical public of these days. Such a *Figaro* and such a *Dulcamara* as Ronconi presents it will take the long experience of any living amateur to find; but, notwithstanding his powerful sway over the audiences who have revelled in the "Barbiere" and the "Elisor d'Amore," the former opera having been given twice, and the latter work having been produced last Tuesday, the performances, to use the common term, "hung fire." Madame Bosio, in *Rosina* and *Adina*, charmed by her sympathetic organ and the purity of her style of vocalisation; and, without any pretensions to extraordinary ability, she will be always acceptable in characters exacting no dramatic intensity. The new tenor, Lucchesi, is stated to be under a cloud, like his voice is at present, owing to a severe domestic affliction, the news of which has only just reached him. Whatever may be the extent of his capabilities, compared with those of the colossal tenors, Mario and Tamberlik, there is one fact must be borne in mind, namely, that he is certainly far superior to his predecessors—Negri, Galvani, Meralti, Ander, and Gueymard, for the purposes for which he is required. Tagliacollo, always a most useful and meritorious artist, has rather raised himself by his *Dr. Bartolo* and *Sergeant Belcore*—not by comparison, certainly, but by care and finish in the details.

The subscription night, given on Thursday, in lieu of the last 'Saturday of the season, was signalled by the first appearance in this country of Tamberlik, as *Arnoldo*, in Rossini's master-piece in serious opera, "Guglielmo Tell." From last year's cast, there were other departures: Formés replacing Marini in *Walter*; Lucchesi taking the fisherman's part, in place of Stigelli; and the dancers in the "Tyrolienne" (Mdlle. Melina Marinet, Mdlle. Besson, and M. Desplaces) being new. In other respects, the *Matilda* of Madame Castellani, the *Edwige* (Tell's wife) of Madame Cotti, the *Jenny* (Tell's son) of Mdlle. Bellini, the *Melantha* of Polonini, the *Leulde* of Rommi, and the *Gessler* of Tagliacollo remain unchanged. We must reserve until a future notice details of one of the finest performances of this great work ever heard in this or any other country. "William Tell" must attract all musical London, as at present executed. Tamberlik has surpassed all anticipations of his *Arnoldo*: it is the grandest specimen of tenor singing from beginning to end—not less remarkable for its finish and delicacy in the earlier scenes than for its stupendous vigour in the last act. His C in alt from the chest electrified the house, and three times was he called before the curtain after the marvellous feat. The trio between Ronconi, Formés, and Tamberlik, in the second act, and the chorus of the Cantons created an equal *furor*. Altogether, the revival was worthy of the best days of the Royal Italian Opera.

ST. JAMES'S.

Madame Ancelot's comedy of "Loisa" has been produced at this theatre; the heroine being performed by Mdlle. Page. It is a tale of desertion by a young Breton, *Kerven*, who, however, returns to his first love, from which he had been seduced by the gaieties of Paris and the charms of *Aglai de Moranville*. *Loisa* follows her lover to the city of dissipation, who, at first, is exceedingly embarrassed by her presence. *Madame Moranville*, who believes her to be *Kerven's* sister, divests her of her peasant costume, and, to her own disquiet, dresses her in the Parisian style. Thus attired, her simple manners and country songs, attract the attention which *Madame* herself had previously monopolised; and in the end, she is fain to resign her claims on *Kerven*, who quits Paris with his *Loisa*. The piece is written with much elegance; and the quiet pathetic acting of Mdlle. Page was exceedingly touching. On Monday, "La Protégée sans le Savoir" was repeated for the purpose of introducing Mdlle. Lobry, as *Helene*. The comédie vaudeville of "André" was also performed, in which M. Roland appeared in the part of *Le Marquis de Morand*.

On Tuesday and Thursday evenings, as also on the mornings of Wednesday and Saturday, the celebrated prestidigitateur, Robert Houdin, repeated his marvellous experiments. It is now superfluous to enter into details on subjects of natural magic; but these Séances Fantastiques will be found to be of the most extraordinary kind, and have been correspondently successful.

ADELPHI.

A new farce, entitled, "A Desperate Game," from the pen of Mr. M. Morton, was produced on Saturday. The game predicated is played off by a lover, one *Captain Ratcliffe* (Mr. Leigh Murray), who assumes the part of a housebreaker, to frighten a *Widow Somerton* (Miss Woolgar), out of her fortune, locked up in a desk, in order to free her from an affianced cousin, one *Mr. Peter Posthwaite* (Mr. Keeley), whose selfishness, cowardice, and brag make him the butt of laughter. The extravagant improbability of the plot was redeemed by the excellent acting. Miss Woolgar, we are happy to perceive, is making good her claim to take rank as a genteel comedian. The terror of the *Widow*, when the pistols are presented at her head, was excellently acted; and, on the *Captain's* subsequent explanation of his strange conduct, her reconciliation and acceptance of him as her future husband, were indicated by transitions at once natural and effective. The farce was successful.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.—MONDAY.

Considerable improvement was displayed on the opening day of this year's "Craven," the card numbering once more in its list of events the Riddlesworth Stakes. The attendance was comparatively scanty. The ground was in capital condition, and the weather fine, but breezy and cold.

CRAVEN STAKES.—Ariosto, 1. Feversham, 2.
HANDICAP SWEEPSTAKES of 20 sovs. each.—Coleraine, 1. Touchstone f, 2.
HANDICAP SWEEPSTAKES of 25 sovs. each.—Nutmell, 1. Hesperus, 2.
RENEWAL OF THE SWEEPSTAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Nathan, 1. Auchinleck, 2.

THIRTY-NINTH RIDDLESWORTH STAKES.—Hybla, 1. Pearl, 2.
PRODUCE STAKES.—Diomedea walked over.
SWEEPSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—William Rufus, 1. Filbert, 2.
HANDICAP PLATE of £50.—Apostate, 1. Sleeping Partner, 2.

TUESDAY.

SWEEPSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Phrygia, 1; Estrella, 2.
PLATE of 50 sovs.—Village Lass, 1; Margaretta, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES of 10 sovs. each.—Leybourne, 1; Sophistry, 2.
TWENTIETH TUESDAY RIDDLESWORTH STAKES.—Diomedea, 1; Tal-ford, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Filbert, 1; Cobnut, 2.
RENEWAL OF THE NEWMARKET HANDICAP of 25 sovs. each.—Tal-ford, 1; Ethelbert, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

SUBSCRIPTION PLATE of £50.—Ephesus, 1. Rackapelt, 2.
HANDICAP PLATE of £50.—Abdallah, 1. Koh-i-noor, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Mayfair, 1. Noisette, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES of 100 sovs. each.—Pharos, 1. Nutpecker, 2.
COLUMN STAKES of 50 sovs. each.—Filbert, 1. Defiance, 2.

THURSDAY.

ZETLAND STAKES.—Comfit, 1. Defiance, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES, 50 sovs. each.—Valour, 1. Begum colt, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES 100 sovs. each.—Speed-the-Plough, 1. Nutpecker, 2.
HANDICAP PLATE. £50.—Warbler, 1. Child of the Mts, 2.
SUBSCRIPTION PLATE. £50.—Guava, 1. Auchinleck, 2.
SWEEPSTAKES of 10 sovs.—Antigone, 1. Sleeping Partner, 2.
HANDICAP.—Nervous, 1. Abdallah, 2.

FRIDAY.

SWEEPSTAKES of 50 sovs.—Scandal, 1. Mayfair, 2.
PORT STAKES.—King of Trumps, 1. Adine, 2.
MATCH.—Adeline beat Gossip.
SWEEPSTAKES.—Napier colt, 1. Grindoff, 2.

LATEST BETTING AT NEWMARKET ON THURSDAY.

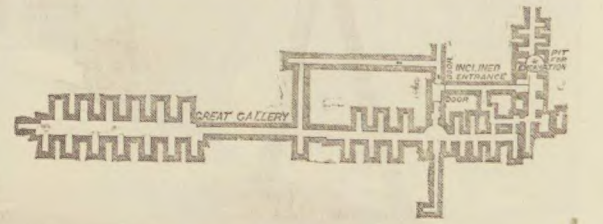
1000 GUINEAS.		
3 to 1 agst Sylphine (t)	6 to 1 agst Vaultruss (t)	3 to 1 agst Comfit (t)
	100 to 15 agst Hybla (t)	
CHESTER CITY.		
10 to 1 agst Trifle (t)	30 to 1 agst St. Michael (t)	50 to 1 agst Missive (t)
DERBY.		
40 to 1 agst Cheddar (t)	50 to 1 agst Reiver (offered)	66 to 1 agst Speed the Plough (t)

YACHTING.—We are happy to hear that Captain Beckman, who visited our shores some time last summer, in charge of the Swedish yacht *Sterige*, is now building a new yacht at Gothenburg, which will be launched this month, and may be expected in England in the course of the ensuing season. We only hope our various clubs may act with the liberality they evinced towards our Yankee friends, and allow all nations to compete for their various prizes.

ALL THE GOLD IN THE WORLD.—Taking the cube yard of gold at £2,000,000, which it is in round numbers, all the gold in the world at this estimate might, if melted into ingots, be contained in a cellar 24 feet square and 16 feet high. All our boasted wealth already obtained from California and Australia would go into an iron safe nine feet square and nine feet high. So small is the cube of yellow metal that has set populations on the march, and roused the world to wonder.—*New Quarterly Review.*

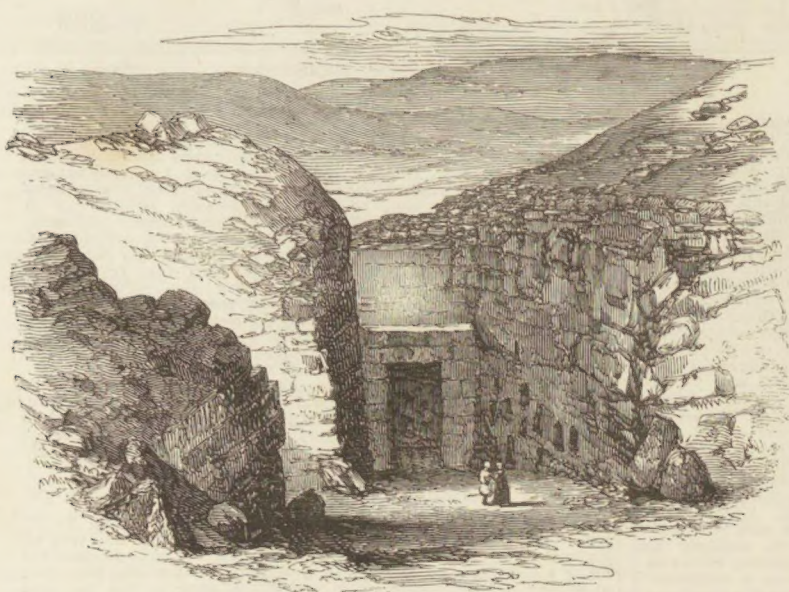
DISCOVERY OF TOMBS, AT SAKKARA.

The finding of these tombs and their magnificent sarcophagi is, perhaps, the greatest discovery which has been made relative to the antiquities of Egypt, since the days of the enterprising Belzoni. The Tomb situated in the desert near Sakkara, to the north west of and near the Pyramid, about four or five hours' ride from Cairo, by way of Toura, where the Nile must be crossed. Monsieur Mariette, to whose knowledge and research this discovery is due, is employed by the French Government. A passage in Strabo having led him to infer that a line of Sphinxes led to the Serapium, he commenced his search, under a Firman from the Viceroy of Egypt about two years and a half since, in the moving sand-hills of Sakkara. He discovered the line of Sphinxes, one of which had been found in 1832 by Signor Marucchi; but they not being in a straight direction, and turning abruptly at the entrance of the Serapium, it was with difficulty they were traced. They were 140 in number, and



sixteen feet apart. The whole avenue proved 1120 feet in length. At the termination were eleven Greek statues of Homer, Pindar, Solon, Lycurgus, Aristotle, and other poets, philosophers, and lawgivers of Greece. One sphinx, having the name of Apis inscribed upon it, was met with under a depth of sixty or seventy feet of sand: stone peacocks nine feet high, and colossal lions, were also found here. The Tomb of Apis was now sought for, and discovered, after a whole year of labour, on the 12th November, 1851. From the avenue a mastaba, or bench, and passage 290 feet long, leads to a pylon, the entrance of the Great Temple. The tomb runs from south to north, and the Great Gallery (See Plan) from east to west. This is about 520 yards in length, and from four to five yards wide. It will be seen, as shown by the plan, that chambers are not formed throughout the whole length of the gallery, and some pas-

T O M B S J U S T D I S C O V E R E D A T S A K K A R A .



ENTRANCE TO THE TOMBS.

sages are altogether without them. The hieroglyphic inscriptions on the tomb are, in one instance, if not more, unfinished; and the doors erected at the entrance are too small to have allowed the passage of the Sarcophagi, and must, therefore, have been built after the latter were introduced. The chambers are not opposite each other, but arranged alternately, in the usual manner of Egyptian places of sepulture. The appearance of this long gallery,



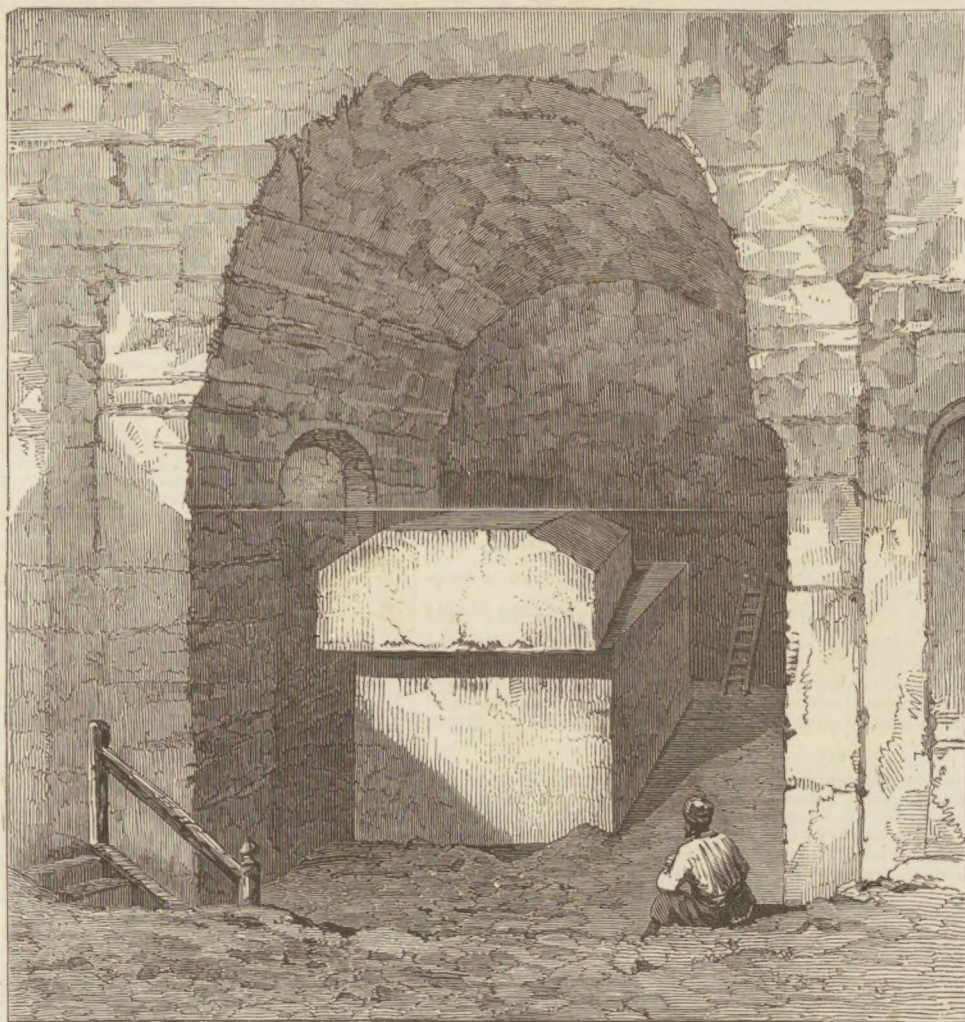
DOORWAY IN TOMB.

when lighted up by numerous candles, receding in dim perspective into gloom—the massive Sarcophagi, of polished granite, each in its chamber, looking tranquilly—is an imposing sight. They are of enormous size and weight; one, and that not the largest, has been estimated to weigh, including the lid, upwards of sixty tons. To have moved these and lowered them into their receptacles, which are

numerous small veins of gypsum, about half an inch in thickness. To prevent the roof from falling, it has been coated with flagstones, cemented to it by a gypseous cement; but, either by the hand of violence, or that of time, these have been detached, and have fallen to the ground, encumbering, and partially choking the galleries and rooms. The mortar, however, still adheres in several places to the walls, and

some six feet below the floor of the gallery, in so confined a space, must have required a considerable amount of mechanical skill and power. In the walls are holes, apparently for the introduction of the ends of beams. The chambers may, however, have been filled with sand, the sarcophagus pushed in and gradually lowered by abstracting the sand. The underside of one of the sarcophagi is rounded, and it was kept steady by wooden blocks on each

projects where the joints of the stones have been. In one chamber is a self-sustained stone arch—another proof, if any were now necessary, that its construction was known to the ancients. (This arch is shown in the second View). This chamber contains a small sarcophagus, in which, probably, were the bones of a young bull. The bones of bulls have been found in several sarcophagi; but every one had been opened, and some heaped with stones—an Eastern mark of contempt—probably, the work of the Persians. At the entrance were numerous *ex voto* offerings of inscribed tablets inserted in small recesses in the walls. There are also inscriptions, in the Demotic character, on the outer doorway. In



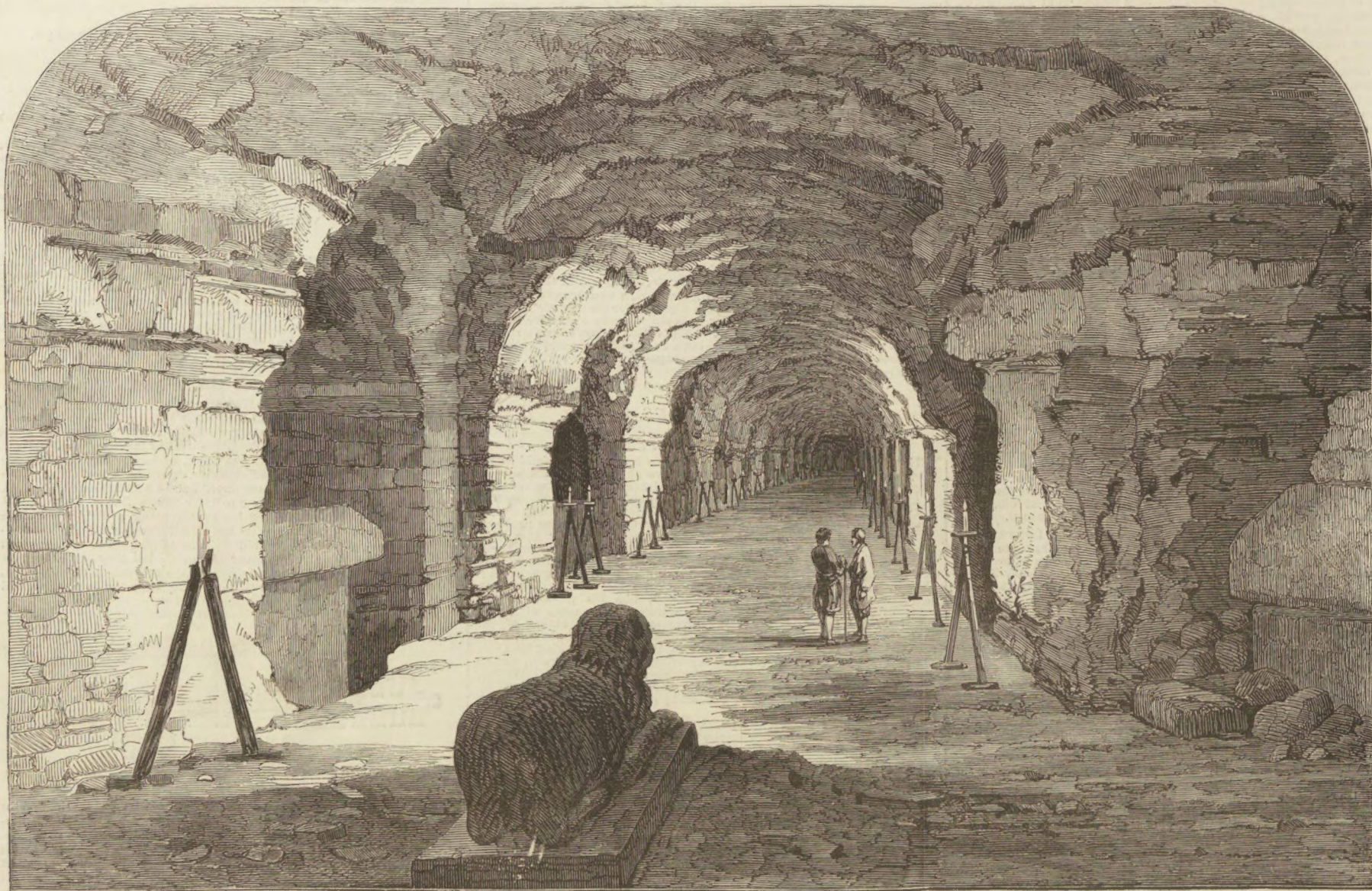
CHAMBER AND SARCOPHAGUS.

side. When these are removed it can be rocked by the hand. A groove, about two feet broad and two or three inches in depth, runs down the middle of the gallery. A wooden capstan was found near the tombs, and is supposed to have been used for moving the stones. The entrance is inclined. The tombs are excavated in a soft friable limestone, containing

some chambers are large recesses to the right and left of the tomb, which in one instance contained a large granite tablet with hieroglyphics. The number of sarcophagi already discovered is twenty-five.

These tombs merit the visit of all antiquaries and travellers passing through Egypt; and M. Mariette's work describing them is looked for with anxiety by all *savants*. To his kindness and courtesy, which, as well as his hospitality, are well known, we are indebted for the greater portion of this information.

Near to Sakkara, on the site of Memphis, Hekekyan Bey has been making excavations connected with the geological investigations of the Nile Valley, instituted at the request of Mr. Leonard Horner and the Geological Society of London, by his Highness the Viceroy, who has very recently received from the English Government, through Mr. Murray, a letter of thanks for his liberal aid to the cause of science.



THE GREAT GALLERY IN THE TOMBS RECENTLY DISCOVERED AT SAKKARA.



WRECK OF "THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND" STEAM-SHIP, OFF ABERDEEN PIER.—TAKING PERSONS FROM THE SHIP

WRECK OF THE "DUKE OF SUTHERLAND"
STEAM-SHIP.

THIS lamentable catastrophe was fully described in our Journal of last week; since which we have received from Aberdeen the two accompanying Sketches:—1. of the mode by which several persons were saved from the wreck; 2. The night scene on the beach.

It will be recollected that while the Harbour Commissioners' life-boat was taking fifteen persons off the steamer, the passengers who were still on board clustered around the starboard paddle-box, the vessel amidships having sunk down solidly on the rocks. To render them relief, life-lines were fired with Dennett's rockets, after about twenty attempts, with success; when Captain Morrison, Dr. Sutherland, and a mechanic, had the cheering gratification of seeing the rocket and line carried beautifully right across the ship, near the funnel. With this line the crew on board got off the pier hawser; and, after fastening it well, a party in charge of it on shore, tightened it up. Then came the difficulty of the box-cradle, and the substitution of slings, by which several passengers were suspended from the hawser by the waist, and thus saved. Next followed the melancholy fate of the Captain, which we have already described.

By the time that the warp was fully secured, and those on shore had begun to work the lines, the ship parted abaft the funnel, which was still standing, the main and mizen-masts having both gone some time previously. Dr. Sutherland, in his graphic narrative, says:—"This was rather a favourable occurrence, for the midship part containing the engines we expected would hold out longer, and from this we might hope to get off all the survivors, although sometimes we had reason to fear that the awful destruction which this part of the vessel was suffering in front would annihilate the whole of it before the last person came off. Six or seven females, and at least fourteen men, were taken off in this way; but of the exact number I am not certain, although each passed me as we released them from the ropes. The females were not the first to come off; this, however, was not owing to the men stepping in before them, but to the heroism some of them evinced in putting the men into the slings, and adjusting the ropes around their bodies. Three females

were taken off at one time, and now only as many men remained. One of the small lines became entangled while the females were half-way in, and, owing to this accident, it was feared for a moment that the line would break, and, consequently, that the remaining three would perish. Happily, however, this suspense was only momentary. The females, although much exhausted, were safely landed and carried away. In a few minutes the three men arranged the ropes, and one of them, the chief steward of the vessel, who was the last to leave the wreck, and to whose presence of mind in working the lines on board the ship is due the saving of many lives, gave the signal, and in two or three minutes more all were in the hands of their friends on the pier." It deserves mention that Christie, the steward, observing that one of the ropes employed in drawing the persons in the slings along the hawser, was frequently getting entangled, and therefore almost frustrating the efforts of those on shore, he (Christie), after placing the last man in the slings, opened his clasp-knife, and placing it in his mouth, was drawn ashore and on to the pier, holding the knife firmly between his teeth.

The scene along the beach, while the efforts were being made to save the crew and passengers has been described; but the Artist's second Sketch shows a provision not yet detailed. After the remaining passengers and crew had been saved from the wreck, a number of the men belonging to the *Archer*, the military and supernumerary watchmen, were stationed on the pier and beach, and bonfires were lighted up, in order to secure any bodies or parts of the cargo that might be washed in. The Lord Provost, Shoremaster, and others of the Harbour Commissioners, were on the spot till nearly midnight. The beach was for a long time subsequently watched, and no persons were allowed to remove articles without establishing a claim to them.

The *Aberdeen Herald* of the 9th states the total loss from the steamer to have been 11; from the coble 5—16 souls: 4 females and 12 males.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE HON. R. GODLANTON.

THE interesting circumstances which have led to the presentation of this testimonial of public esteem are thus narrated in the inscription:—

Presented to the Hon. R. GODLANTON, M.L.C., by a number of his fellow colonists in Grahams' Town and Albany, Cape of Good Hope; as a small testimonial of their approval and high admiration of his able, consistent, and persevering advocacy of the rights and interests of the inhabitants of the Eastern Province; alike in his place as an elected

Member of the Legislative Council, and in his profession as Editor of an influential public journal. Graham's Town, 1853.

This handsome gift, a candelabrum or epergne, is upwards of two feet in height: the design consists of a tree, at the base of which are three figures—a European settler, a Kaffir, and a Bushman, the races engaged in the recent struggle; the Kaffir being an authentic likeness of



PLATE PRESENTED TO THE HON. R. GODLANTON, M.L.C., BY CAPE COLONISTS.

Sandilli, the celebrated rebel chief: these figures are highly characteristic, and are cleverly modeled. Above them, and round the stem, are other three figures, allegorical of Commerce, Plenty, and Peace.

This costly piece of plate has been ably executed by Mr. Joseph Angell, 10, Strand, for Mr. Radmall, Cape Town; and was despatched to the colony on Monday last.



WRECK OF "THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND" STEAM-SHIP.—BONFIRES ON THE BEACH.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 17.—Third Sunday after Easter.
 MONDAY, 18.—Judge Jeffries died, 1689. American Revolution, 1775.
 TUESDAY, 19.—St. Alphage. Lord Byron died, 1824.
 WEDNESDAY, 20.—Spanish Fleet destroyed by Admiral Blake, 1657.
 THURSDAY, 21.—Bishop Heber born, 1783.
 FRIDAY, 22.—Duke of Sussex died, 1843. Fielding born, 1707.
 SATURDAY, 23.—St. George. Shakspeare born, 1564; died, 1616.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 23, 1853.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M. 7 30 A. 8 10	M. 8 55 A. 9 35	M. 10 20 A. 11 0	M. 11 35 A. 12 15	M. 1 0 A. 1 30	M. 1 55 A. 2 35	M. 2 40 A. 3 20

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. S.—In our answer last week, instead of "A frigate does not rank as a ship," read a frigate does not rank as a ship of the line.
 A. LIEUTENANT, R.N., is thanked for the correction.
 J. T.—The number of planets at present known between Mars and Jupiter is twenty-three.
 Z. H.—Murphy's predicted cold day was Jan. 20, in the year 1838.
 PLANETA.—(On Nov. 15th, 1852, Lutetia was discovered, by Goldschmidt; on Nov. 16th, 1852, Calliope; and Thalia, on Dec. 15th, 1852, by Hind.
 A. B. and A. S. S. C. R. B.—The phenomena in question were parts of a solar halo, and mock suns.
 PHILONAUTICS.—(Tonnage of Vessels).—Having procured the length of keel between the stem and stern posts, deduct from that length three-fifths of the vessel's beam, and the remainder will be the length on keel for tonnage. Multiply this product by the entire beam of the ship, and the last product again by half the beam, the total divided by ninety-four will be the tonnage for ships of ordinary proportions. In sharp-built vessels, where there is a raking stern and stern post, allowance must be made by taking the length amidships between the keel and the upper deck, and adding the difference to the keel measurement; vessels of peculiar construction and great depth of hold, will, of course, be allowed for accordingly; in steam-vessels the engine-room space must be deducted.
 PHILONAUTICS, Truro.—See a Handbook on Pigeons published by Ott and Co.
 A. COMPETITOR, Glasgow.—We cannot undertake to inquire into the cause of the delay of the award of the "Temperance" prize. A letter to Sir Horace St. Paul may answer the writer's purpose.
 A. S. C. R. B., Northallerton.—Apply for musical-glasses to Horne, Thornthwaite, and Co., Newgate-street.
 A. S. C. R. B., Falmouth, Jamaica.—The population of Glasgow, by the census returns of 1851, was 333,657; of Liverpool, 255,055.
 ANNIE DE LISLE.—Hamel's "French Educational Works," published by Whittaker and Co.
 S. V.—Postage-stamps may now be sold without a license.
 S. H. C.—Roland and Oliver are said to have been the names of two equally matched steeds in Charlemagne's expedition against the Saracens; hence "Roland for an Oliver" became a phrase for tit for tat.
 AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—Charles Romilly, Esq., who married Lady Georgiana Elizabeth Russell, is one of the sons of the late Sir Samuel Romilly. Another of the sons, the present Master of the Rolls, Sir John Romilly, is the husband of Miss Otter, daughter of the late Bishop of Chichester.
 J. B., Norwich.—The arms of the Trinity-house fraternity are: "A cross gu. between four ships of three masts, each under full sail, all ppr. On each sail, pennant and ensign, a cross gu., and each quarter representing a sea-piece. Crest: A demi-lion rampant guardant, and regally crowned or, holding in his dexter paw a sword erect arg., hilted and pomelled of the first. Motto: Trinitas intrinseca."
 AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—The Arms required to be described are:—A saltire, and on a chief a lion passant. The tinctures are not indicated on the seal.
 A. S. C. R. B., and the YOUNGEST SON OF AN HEIRESS.—We have not space to give the authorities; but we can assure our Correspondent that all the sons of an heiress are entitled to quarter their mother's arms.
 A. DESCENDANT OF ADAM.—The children of A. and B. may legally quarter, with their paternal bearings, the arms of their mother, and all the quarterings she was entitled to. The crest of the mother's family must not be adopted. In the case submitted, the marshalling would be as follows:—Quarterly—1st, A.; 2nd, C.; 3rd, B.; 4th, D. The arrangement of B. and D. quarterly would not be incorrect, although unusual and unnecessary.
 A. GRANDEE.—The descent of the Empress of the French from the great family of Kirkpatrick, of Closeburn, though recognised, has never been clearly shown.
 PRISCUS is thanked. | S. G. C.—The letter is past recovery

* * * ERRATUM.—In the notice of the Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, at page 272, for Mrs. Bassot read Mrs. Bessot.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1853.

THE propositions which the Chancellor of the Exchequer made on Friday evening week, are much more appropriately called the conversion than the reduction of the National Debt. There still exists, as a part of our incumbrances, a sum of nearly £9,000,000, which originated in the notorious South Sea Bubble, of the reign of George I., which has left to this day a burden on the children of those who admired it. There exists, too, amongst our incumbrances, £676,130 of Bank Annuities, created as long ago as 1720—about the period of that bubble when our forefathers were reckless of the welfare of their children. These patriarchal stocks (as the Chancellor called them), amounting together to £9,500,000, still bear an interest of three per cent; though the interest of money on less safe securities has been, with some exceptions, lower than that for many months, and even some years. By the resolutions submitted to the House of Commons on Friday week, the Chancellor proposes to convert these Three per Cents into stocks, bearing a less rate of interest; and, if the owners decline his offers, he will pay them off. It has been resolved by the House of Commons that after April 5th, 1854, interest shall no longer be paid on these stocks, and at that period the last visible remnant amongst us of the great swindle of the 18th century is positively to be for ever extinguished. We cannot, however, get rid of the obligations it imposed on us; and in place of every £100 of these stocks, the Chancellor proposes to substitute either:—

£82 10s of a new stock, to be created, bearing interest at the rate of 3½ per cent, which is about equivalent to £2 17s. 9d., on every £100 of the old stock; or
 £110 of a new stock, bearing interest at the rate of 2½, which is equivalent to about £2 15s. on every £100 of the old stock; or
 £100 of Exchequer Bonds, bearing interest at the rate of 2½ per cent for ten years, and then 2½ per cent.

All these are new securities, and the rates of interest on them are to be guaranteed for 40 years. If the holders of the South Sea Stock will not on these terms accept the new stocks they will be paid off at par. It is clear that from such an operation, supposing it to be ever so successful, very little saving can accrue to the public; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not estimate it at more than £25,000 a year—a sum not worth causing great inconvenience and trouble to obtain. But the Chancellor contemplates, as a part of the plan, a great prospective conversion of debt. There exists, under the name of Consols and Reduced Annuities, a sum of about £500,000,000, on which the nation still pays an annual interest of three per cent, though money is borrowed on less safe securities at a much lower rate of interest. There is a general expectation, though perhaps not justified, that the rate will be still lower. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is of that opinion; and believing, therefore, that the holders of these Three per Cents, living in the apprehension of being paid off, or having the rate of interest greatly reduced, will be ready to accept a lower rate of interest guaranteed for forty years, he offers to convert the Three per Cents into these new stocks at the option of the holders, and so bring about a voluntary conversion, to a great extent, of the National Debt; with this addi-

tional advantage, that, at the end of forty years, all the new stocks may be further reduced without notice, should the state of the money market warrant the reduction; while now the Three per Cents can only be reduced after a year's notice, and their immense amount almost forbids the hope of reducing them. The Chancellor tempts different classes to enter into his plan by different advantages. To those who may wish to increase their income without caring so much about the amount of their capital, he offers the Three-and-a-Half new stock; to those who care less about a present income, and look more to the amount of capital, he offers the Two-and-a-Half per Cent new stock; and to merchants and bankers, here and abroad, who like easily negotiable securities, he offers his new-invented Exchequer Bonds, bearing interest payable half-yearly, with coupons attached to them, so that the interest can be obtained wherever there is a bank communicating with a bank in London. There can be little doubt, if the interest of money continues as low as at present, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will succeed in converting the old debt into these new securities. To the conversion into the Three-and-a-Half Stock he places no limit; to the conversion into the Two-and-a-Half Stock, and into Exchequer Bonds, he, at present places a limit of £30,000,000; if the plan succeed, however, he will extend the limit. He does not expect to gain as much as £200,000 by the scheme, but it may lay the foundation for a great reduction of charge on the debt hereafter. The success will depend, however, on the rate of interest for money for the next forty years; and that he can no more control or foresee than any ordinary mortal. His plan is sufficiently comprehensive to please a great number of persons. In particular, the creation of Exchequer Bonds, as answering many commercial purposes, is highly approved of; but the creation of a Two-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, which may add 10 per cent in proportion to the amount of the conversion to the capital of the National Debt, though obviously the Chancellor's favourite part of the scheme, is very generally condemned. In our opinion, he would have done better had he followed the example of his predecessors, and attempted, if the market rate of interest warranted the attempt to reduce the rate of interest on the existing stocks without creating new stocks. The Exchequer Bonds, which everybody approves of—though, perhaps, they place too much pecuniary power in the hands of the Government—might for such a purpose, have been issued to a much larger amount.

A GREAT step was made, or rather announced, in the House of Commons on Tuesday, towards obtaining for Parliament a more complete control over the public expenditure. At present, besides the £52,000,000, or thereabout, we continually hear of as the annual revenue, there is about £6,000,000, of which we rarely hear, gathered, like the larger sum, from the people by Custom-house and Excise duties, but which is never paid into the Exchequer, appears in no estimates, and is never submitted in any shape to the control of Parliament. The cost of collecting the duties is paid out of them before the proceeds are remitted to the Exchequer, subject to the revision and control of the Treasury only, which has a great desire to multiply patronage and places. The gentlemen who collect the revenue, determine how many of them are required, and what wages they shall get. They do not wait for the public whom they serve to fix their remuneration—they pay themselves. On the revenue, too, before it reaches the Exchequer, sundry hereditary pensions—some of them granted as long ago as the reign of Charles II.—are charged; on the Excise the judicial establishment of Scotland is charged; and various functionaries, placed under the control of the Board of Customs, such as quarantine officers, are all paid by the Custom-house officials out of the revenue, as they collect it. The six million odd which is stopped and scarcely accounted for—certainly not efficiently audited and controlled—has for many years attracted the attention of financial reformers; but till last Tuesday all their efforts to obtain from Parliament any control over this money were fruitless. The Treasury has generally, as the rule, haughtily warned off the reformers from this nice little preserve of its own. Then, however, on Mr. Williams making his almost annual motion to bring the whole of the income, without any deduction whatever, into the Exchequer, and to pay no sum out of the public income without the sanction of Parliament, the Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted that the principle was correct, and stated that Government was engaged in giving effect to it. In particular, he described as indefensible the strange circumstance that the Scotch judicial establishment is paid out of the Excise, and that practice we may expect will be immediately altered. It will be his great object, consistently with admitting this principle, to bring all the expenditure now made by the various Boards directly under the control of the Treasury that it may answer to Parliament for the whole annual expenditure of the country. The admission and the promises to effect improvement are very satisfactory in themselves, but as an indication of the spirit of the Government intent on making the administration of public affairs as cheap and as efficient as possible, they are invaluable. If the business of the Opposition be, as is said, at an end, it is because the Ministry has taken the path which patriotism has pointed out for it, and no longer appears as the oppressor of the people and the waster of the public resources, but as the protector of the public interests and the guardian of the public purse. If every Government, however, is now so ready to run before the public wishes as to make an opposition almost needless, let us not forget that to the continual labours of men on the left of the Speaker's chair, the occupants of the Treasury benches have been drilled into economy and patriotism.

NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—His Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and Princess Alice, honoured the Exhibition of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours with a lengthened visit on Thursday; when Prince Albert was pleased to express great satisfaction at the progress of the society. His Royal Highness Prince Albert was attended by Col. Seymour; and Miss and Mrs. Gibbs accompanied the Royal children.

SOLAR PHENOMENON.—Mr. E. J. Lowe thus describes a magnificent solar phenomenon noticed at the Observatory, Highfield-house, near Nottingham, on the afternoon of the 10th inst. At 3h. 40m. a solar halo of 22° radius became visible. At 3h. 42m. a mock sun formed on the halo on the south side and on the sun's horizontal level; at 4h. 45m. the phenomenon became very imposing, the halo brighter, and at its apex a portion of an inverted arc, visible, having a mock sun at the point of contact with the halo of 22° radius; mock suns on either side the true sun at the same altitude, and distant 22° from that luminary; these were pale and confused. Two prismatic portions of a circle of 45° radius, which had the sun for its centre, were also now formed. Above the true sun, at the distance of 45°, was an inverted arc of a circle of probably 50° diameter, exceedingly brilliant, surpassing the rainbow in brilliancy of colour—width, 1°; length of arc, 40°. The whole circles had the red colour nearest to the sun. At 4h. 50m. the phenomenon had vanished with the exception of the halo of 22°. The sky was scattered over with cirri and cumuli, which rendered the phenomenon invisible after 5h. 30m.

MUNICH, April 10th.—Professor de Liebig was last night giving a lecture on chemistry at the palace before the Royal family, and some persons belonging to the Court, when a bottle of oxygen gas, handed to him by his assistant who took it for another bottle, exploded, flying into a thousand pieces. Fortunately the explosion occurred in an inner room, the door of which was open. Still some fragments of the glass passed through the door, and slightly wounded some members of the Royal party: Queen Theresa was cut in the cheek, and the blood flowed in abundance; Prince Luitpold was slightly wounded in the forehead, Countess Luxburg in the chin, and Countess Sandizell in the head; but the wounds were not serious. The Professor fortunately escaped with only a slight injury.

THE COURT.

The progressive improvement in her Majesty's health has been satisfactorily shown in the character of the bulletins during the past week. On Wednesday the following gratifying announcement was made through the ordinary official channel:—

"BUCKINGHAM PALACE, April 13th, 1853.
 "Nine o'clock a.m.

"The Queen is convalescent.
 "The infant Prince continues well.

"JAMES CLARK, M.D.
 "CHARLES LOGCOCK, M.D.
 "ROBERT FERGUSON, M.D.

"Her Majesty's recovery is so far advanced, that no further bulletins will be issued."

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent has visited her Majesty daily during the week.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary called at the Palace on Monday, to make inquiries after the Queen. The calls at Buckingham Palace to inquire after her Majesty's health during the week have included the whole of the corps diplomatique, and the leading members of the aristocracy and fashionable world.

The Viscountess Canning has succeeded the Countess of Gainsborough in her duties as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

The Gazette of Tuesday last announces that his Royal Highness Prince Albert will, by the desire of her Majesty, hold levees at St. James's Palace, on the following days, at two o'clock:—Wednesday, the 20th inst.; Wednesday, the 27th inst. It is her Majesty's pleasure that presentations to his Royal Highness at these levees shall be considered equivalent to presentations to the Queen.

It is understood that the Court will leave town on the 30th inst., for the Isle of Wight, where her Majesty will probably remain for ten days or a fortnight, and then return to London for the season.

The Queen has presented to the Duke of Brabant, by the hands of an officer of her Majesty's household, a magnificent silver dressing-case, on the occasion of his coming of age.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester on Saturday, at Gloucester House.

The Duke and Duchess d'Aumale, and the Princess de Salerno, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent on Saturday, at Clarence House, St. James's.

The Duke of Devonshire received, on Wednesday, at dinner, at Devonshire House, the Bishop of London and Mrs. Blomfield, the Duke of Argyll, Lady Dover, Baron Parke and Lady Parke, &c. His Grace intends to enliven the fashionable season with three grand balls.

The Duke of Somerset, whose prolonged indisposition, arising from a painful accident while engaged in his library, has occasioned much anxiety to his numerous friends and family connections, is at length pronounced convalescent.

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk entertained a select circle at dinner on Wednesday evening at Norfolk-house. The Duchess received a small party after dinner.

The Countess of Clarendon will hold a "reception" at the official residence of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in Downing-street, on Wednesday.

The Earl of Malmesbury, on behalf of the Countess, whose indisposition we regret to announce, received a distinguished circle of the fashionable world, on Saturday evening, at the family mansion, in Whitehall-gardens.

The Countess Helen Kielmansegge, daughter of his Excellency the Hanoverian Minister, has arrived at her father's residence, in Grosvenor-place, from Hanover.

The Countess Granville gave a ball on Thursday night, in Bruton-street.

Viscountess Jocelyn has arrived in Bruton-street, from Nice.

Lady Stanley of Alderley intends giving a grand ball, at her residence in Dover-street, on Monday, the 2nd proximo.

We understand that a matrimonial alliance is arranged, and will shortly be celebrated, between the Lady Margaret Compton, sister of the Marquis of Northampton, and the Hon. E. F. Leveson Gower, M.P., brother of the Earl Granville.

Lady Howard de Walden and the Hon. Misses Ellis have arrived in town from the British Embassy at Brussels.

The Hon. Mrs. Sydney Herbert has issued cards for an assembly on the 27th instant.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. R. A. Rackham to Wharfedale, Suffolk; the Rev. J. S. Whiteford to Taxall, near Macclesfield; the Rev. T. R. Govett to Alby, Norfolk; the Rev. C. B. Auber to Clannaborough, Devon. *Vicarages*: The Rev. J. Lynes to Buckland Monachorum; the Rev. T. Daws to Canon Pyon, Herefordshire; the Rev. J. D. Morgan to Llanspythid, Brecknockshire. *Rural Dean*: The Rev. J. R. Young to Learnington. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. J. Thomas, B.A., to Trinity Chapel, Waltham Cross; the Rev. W. Laycock to St. Anne's-in-the-Grove, Halifax; the Rev. C. J. Westropp to Hanningham, Warwickshire; the Rev. W. Tait to St. Matthew's Church, Rugby; the Rev. A. H. Northcote to Dowland. The Rev. C. J. Abraham to the archdeaconry of Waimate, in the diocese of New Zealand. The Rev. W. T. Maudson, M.A., to the ministry of Beresford Episcopal Chapel, Waltham. The Bishop of London has appointed the Rev. T. H. Greene to be his Domestic Chaplain. The Rev. A. O. Hartley has been appointed to the Head Mastership of the Fauconberg Free Grammar-school, Beccles.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW BISHOP.—Holy Thursday has been appointed for the consecration of the Right Rev. Dr. John Jackson, Bishop elect of Lincoln. The ceremony will be performed in the private chapel within Lambeth Palace, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, and the Bishop of Oxford. Dr. Jackson will be installed in his cathedral in the course of the following week, and will immediately afterwards enter upon the formal possession of his diocese. The new Bishop will have in his gift ecclesiastical patronage to the extent of £16,000 a year. It has not yet transpired who will be Dr. Jackson's successor in the rectory of St. James's, Piccadilly. The appointment is in the gift of the Crown.

NEW CHURCHES IN THE LONDON DIOCESE.—Her Majesty's commissioners have recommended the erection of fifty-eight new churches in the diocese of London. Of these, seven are to be erected in the parish of St. Pancras, five in Marylebone (namely, two in St. Mary's district, one in Trinity, one in All Souls, and one at St. John's-wood), six in Shoreditch, four in Stepney, three in St. George's-in-the-East, two in Limehouse, two in Whitechapel, two in Poplar, two in Deptford, two in Newington, two in St. James's, Westminster; two in St. James's, Clerkenwell; two in St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, one in Spitalfields, one in St. Andrew's, Holborn; one in St. Sepulchre's, Snow-hill; one in St. Anne's, Soho; one in St. Clement Danes, one in St. George's, Hanover-square; one in St. Luke's, Old-street; one in St. Paul's, Shadwell; one in St. Botolph Without, Aldgate; one at Hackney, one at Bow, one at Hammersmith, one at Barking, one at Bromley St. Leonards, one at Isleworth, one at Stoke Newington, one at West Ham. These are independent of a large number which are proposed to be erected in Lambeth and Southwark, in the diocese of Winchester.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION.—On Wednesday, at Christ Church, Newgate-street, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London confirmed between 600 and 700 persons of both sexes. Previous to commencing the sacred ceremony, his Lordship addressed all those in attendance for confirmation, and was most attentively listened to. The church was very fully attended.

SCULPTURE FOR THE LONDON CORPORATION.—The Corporation, in adorning the Mansion-house with statues, avoided competition. They visited various studios, and then named by ballot six sculptors who should each be commissioned to produce an ideal figure from one of the English poets. The artists selected are Messrs. Bailey, McDowell, Foley, Lough, Calder Marshall, and Thripp; and they have each submitted a sketch in plaster of their design one-fourth the real size, which is to be somewhat larger than life. The subjects are—following the same order as the names:—"Bright Morning Star," Milton; "Leah," from Moore's "Loves of the Angels"; "Egeria," from Byron's "Childe Harold"; "Comus," "Griselda," and a figure called "The Lion-slayer," unappropriated. This last is to be withdrawn, and a substitute provided.

DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL ART.—On Saturday last was published a Parliamentary blue-book, containing the first report of the Department of Practical Art. The report is addressed to the President of the Board of Trade, and is signed by Mr. H. Cole. It is followed by a series of appendices, maps, and plans.

TRIBUNALS OF COMMERCE.—A thinly-attended meeting of the inhabitants of Southwark took place on Wednesday, at the Town-hall, under the presidency of the High Bailiff, to adopt measures to procure a substitution of Tribunals of Commerce for the present expensive, cumbersome, and tedious process of obtaining justice in the courts of law. A series of resolutions was adopted declaratory of the superiority of the tribunal over the legal system.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Lord BERNERS having moved the second reading of the Poor Removal and Local Assement Bill, a discussion took place, which resulted in the noble Lord's withdrawing the bill—a pledge having been given on the part of the Government that a bill would be brought in on the subject.

The Earl of ABERDEEN gave notice of his intention to move an amendment to the motion of the Earl of Winchelsea, in reference to the withdrawal of the grant from the College of Maynooth; such amendment being, in effect, that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for a Commission of Inquiry into the state of the College of Maynooth, and into the system of education pursued therein.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Mr. DIVETT informed the House that the sitting members, Sir J. Walmsley and Mr. Gardner, had been declared duly elected for Leicester by the members of the committee appointed to try their election.

Mr. CARDWELL brought before the House the question of the amalgamation of railways. The railways so involved were possessed of £167,000,000 of capital—a large sum, and therefore deserving of serious attention. They were dealing with respect even to the Great Western, with a proposed increase and amalgamation, with a sum of not less than sixteen millions. But there was yet a larger question, and that was the question of railway accidents; and it was the duty of the House to deal with the matter. They had had great arguments addressed to the Government on both sides, and it was difficult to deal with the subject. He proposed to move resolutions, which would have the effect of making subject to the Government all proposals whatever to amalgamate existing railways. The result of their inquiry was not to allow railways to proceed without the consent of the Government. Under such circumstances, he proposed that no bill should pass with respect to railways which should not receive the sanction of the Government and of the House. After some discussion the resolutions were agreed to.

Sir B. HALL informed the House that the Committee appointed to try the election of Tynemouth had come to the decision of the election being a void election; and that both candidates had, by their agents, been guilty of bribing and treating.

M. KOSSUTH.

In answer to a question of Sir J. WALMSLEY, with respect to M. Kossuth, as to his alleged practices against a foreign Government, and the discovery of a large amount of arms and munitions of war,

Lord PALMERSTON said that information had been given to the War-office that warlike stores were kept in a house in Rotherhithe, but not occupied by M. Kossuth. A vast quantity of shells in an incomplete state, 500 lbs. of gunpowder, and a large quantity of composition for filling rockets were found in the place. As it was considered impossible that so large a quantity of such combustible matters could be kept for any peaceable purpose, it was thought prudent to seize them. The step had been taken not in consequence of any promise given to foreign Governments, but in consequence of the previous declaration in that House, that it was the duty of the Government to see that the hospitality given by the Government to foreign refugees should not be abused by the giving encouragement to those foreign refugees to the manufacture of implements of war.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE said that the house in question had never been in the occupation of Kossuth, nor even connected with him in any way. The premises belonged to Mr. Hale for six years—a gentleman who was engaged in the manufacture of patent rockets, which he supplied in quantities to foreign Governments. He (Mr. Duncombe) had received his information from Mr. Hale himself. He thought that the conduct of the Government was most illegal; for many British subjects had been guilty of the same thing; and he might particularly mention Captain Warner, who was manufacturing rockets to send them to foreign Governments, where they were now being used. He believed a most illegal act had been committed by the police.

Lord PALMERSTON said the hon. gentleman appeared to know so much upon the subject that it was not necessary for him to give any opinion on the subject (Cheers and laughter).

Mr. BRIGHT said the *Times* had misrepresented the case; and he thought the Government had acted wrongly. He wished to know distinctly whether the Government had any ground for really believing that Kossuth had anything to do with the matter.

Lord PALMERSTON said, in the present state of affairs, it was obviously improper to say more than that a further inquiry upon the matter was going on. He had no hesitation in saying that there was nothing in the case to reflect upon M. Kossuth.

JEWISH DISABILITIES BILL.

On the order of the day being read for the third reading of this bill,

Mr. C. BRUCE protested against the measure, upon the ground that the number of its opponents was certainly on the increase. He moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a third time that day six months.

After a long discussion the House divided. The numbers were—For the third reading, 288; Against it, 230: Majority, 58.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

EASTER TERM.—Yesterday (Friday) being the first day of Easter Term, the Lord Chancellor entertained the Master of the Rolls, the Lord Chief Justice of England, the Lords Justices, the Vice-Chancellors, and the Judges of the several courts, to breakfast, at his mansion, in Upper Brook-street. His Lordship also held a general levee of the bar; and after the levee his Lordship and the Judges proceeded to Westminster, to open their respective courts for the Term.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held yesterday at the Foreign-office. The Ministers present were:—The Earl of Aberdeen, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord John Russell, Viscount Palmerston, Duke of Newcastle, Sir J. Graham, Sir C. Wood, Sir W. Molesworth, and the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert.

THE ADMISSION OF REPORTERS AND STRANGERS INTO THE GALLERY ON DIVISIONS.—The committee appointed on the motion of Mr. Muntz on this subject had its first sitting at twelve o'clock yesterday; but, as strangers and reporters were not admitted, we cannot give any report of the proceedings of the committee.

ELECTION COMMITTEES.—Yesterday three cases were decided—*Leicester*.—The petition against the sitting members (Sir J. Walmsley and Mr. Gardner) was withdrawn; but costs not allowed. *Cockermouth*.—The member (Mr. Aglionby) declared duly elected, but "the committee felt bound to report to the House that there had been several cases of persons deterred from voting for General Wyndham by their employers, but without the knowledge or sanction of Mr. Aglionby or his agents." *Tynemouth*.—The sitting member (Mr. Taylor) gave up his seat. The chairman said that "it appeared, from the evidence, that both candidates had, by their agents, been guilty of bribery and treating."

HUDDERSFIELD.—Mr. Joseph Starkey has appeared in the field, to oppose Lord Goderich. The election is expected to take place next Wednesday.

THE PICTURE-CLEANING IN THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, on Thursday night, in the House of Commons, that, with respect to this subject, nothing of an unwise or indiscreet character appeared to have been done, and there was no reason to suppose that any injury has been sustained by the pictures which have been submitted to the process of cleaning. The process, however, would be suspended for some time, and therefore the committee would have ample time to investigate the subject before any further steps would be taken.

CITY REFORM.—The following resolution was carried on Thursday in the Common-council:—"That the Lord Mayor or Recorder be requested to state to her Majesty's Government, that the Corporation of London, in the event of the appointment by her Majesty of a Commission of Inquiry respecting the Corporation of London, will afford every facility, and all the information in their power upon the subject."

THE MAILS.—SOUTHAMPTON, Thursday, April 14.—The General Screw Steam Shipping Company's steam-ship *Indiana*, Captain Lambert, sailed this afternoon for the Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, Ceylon, Madras, and Calcutta, the mails for which places she will take on board at Plymouth on Friday. The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's ship *Haddington*, Captain E. Cooper, has arrived from Constantinople, Smyrna, Malta, and Gibraltar.

ADVENTURES OF AN AUSTRALIAN MAIL.—On the recent breakdown of the *Australian* steamer, thirty-nine bags for Adelaide were put on board the *Orestes*, a sailing-vessel belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company, for conveyance to that colony. The *Orestes* sprung her foremast on the 4th inst., bore up for Lisbon, where she now lies disabled; and the ill-fated mail-bags reached Southampton on Friday morning by the *Iberia*—the fourth attempt to send them to their destination having proved a failure!

BARONESS ROTHSCHILD.—The Baroness Charles de Rothschild, of Naples, expired on Saturday last, at Frankfort-sur-Maine. The deceased lady, who was in the 54th year of her age, was mother-in-law to Baron Lionel de Rothschild, M.P.

MORE CITY GRAVEYARDS CLOSED.—Lord Palmerston gave notice on Thursday, under the provisions of the 14th and 15th Victoria, to the parochial authorities of St. Edmund the King, St. Nicholas Acons, Allhallows the Great, Allhallows the Less, St. Lawrence Jewry, and St. Mary Magdalen, all in the city of London, that on the 14th of May an Order in Council would issue, closing their graveyards against all further interments.

DEATH OF REAR-ADMIRAL SIR T. FELLOWES, C.B.—Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Fellowes, C.B., aged seventy-five, died on Wednesday, in Dorset. Sir Thomas served about twenty years afloat, and was three years superintendent of the Royal Naval Hospital and Royal William Victualling-yard, Stonehouse.

SINGULAR DEATH.—On Thursday, a painter's lad, named Jones, fourteen years old, while painting at Messrs Coutts', in the Strand, was discovered with his neck jammed between the sash-line and the stile (upright) of the window, with his feet resting on the ground, quite dead. It is supposed that in cleaning the slide where the sash traverses he got his head underneath the sash line, and, letting it go with a jerk, the weight, being ponderous, drew the cord so tight as to strangle him.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.—The Emperor of France is nearly recovered from his indisposition, but has not yet left his apartments in the Tuileries. The Empress took a carriage airing on Thursday alone.

The Senate met on Thursday, to settle the jointure of the Empress; but, as the debate was carried on with closed doors, nothing is known for certain respecting the sum proposed.

The Police Correctionnel have not yet pronounced judgment upon the persons charged with having belonged to a secret society.

Galliard, the principal actor in the Marseilles machine affair, is said to be in London.

The Four-and-a-Half per Cents closed on Thursday at 103 f. 20 c., and the Three per Cents at 80 f. 40 c.

PORTUGAL.—By the *Iberia*, we have advices from Lisbon to the 9th.

The House of Peers had approved of the reply to the Throne, after rejecting the different Opposition amendments by thirty-four votes against twenty-two. The bill of indemnity to legalise the dictatures of 1851-52 was under discussion in the Deputies, and likely to be approved by both houses.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.—The papers and letters from India and China, in advance of the Overland Mail, have been received. The news from Burmah comes down to the 23rd of February, at which date appearances favoured the idea that peace conditions would shortly be entered into between the British authorities and the Government of Ava, which had given repeated proofs of its strong desire that hostilities should cease. The King was still shut up in the fortress, and the half-brother, who had assumed regal power, was believed to be qualified to treat. General Steele took possession of Shwageen without molestation, and was about to occupy Tomgoo upon apparently the same easy terms. The Dacoit robber, Meeton, who had twice repulsed the British troops, wished also to come to a friendly arrangement with General Godwin. A reward of £100 had been set upon his head. Some disturbances had broken out at Bhawulpore, owing to the abdication or the deposition of the Nawab, the people having declared in favour of his brother Hajee Mahomed, who was considered by them to be the rightful heir. A British force from Sukkur was ordered to march to suppress the tumult. The Nizam of Hyderabad seems anxious to hasten his fate. Overwhelmed with debt, and unable to meet the claims of his chief creditor, the British Government, he is determined on increasing his army, which already, exclusive of the contingent, exceeds 60,000 men. The Governor-General has, it is said, forwarded his ultimatum, and annexation, it is said, cannot be far distant.

The intelligence from China is chiefly of importance as far as it relates to the progress of the rebellion. It is quite evident that trade is a good deal affected by the movements in the interior, but it appears extremely probable that matters are now rapidly approaching a crisis. Dr. Bowring has proceeded to Canton.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 14.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
April 8	29.824	50.0	38.1	41.9	— 2.8	83	N.W.	0.18
" 9	30.275	49.6	34.4	39.8	— 5.0	69	N.	0.00
" 10	30.038	56.8	37.9	46.4	+ 1.4	82	N.W.	0.06
" 11	30.157	59.3	37.2	46.7	+ 1.6	81	N.W.	0.00
" 12	29.987	56.6	43.4	47.1	+ 1.8	72	N.	0.00
" 13	29.892	48.8	37.5	39.8	— 5.7	85	N.E.	0.02
" 14	30.012	52.1	32.0	41.7	— 4.0	67	N.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The mean reading of the barometer for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.027 inches. The highest reading occurred on the 9th, at about noon, and was 30.290 inches; and the range of the readings during the week was about half-an-inch. The weather during the week has been very variable, and the mean daily temperature ranging from 58° below to 14° above its average value. The mean temperature of the week was 43.3°, being 1.8° below the average of the same week during thirty-eight years. The highest reading of the thermometer during the week was 59.3°, which occurred on the 11th; and the lowest 32.0°, on the 14th—their difference, 27.3°, shows the range of temperature in the week. The daily differences of temperature have not been very great, their mean being 16.1°, which is 2.9° above average of the fourteen preceding weeks. Rain fell during the week to the depth of 0.26 inch, most of which fell during the thunder-storm on the 8th. Several showers of hail fell on the 13th.

Lewisham, April 15th, 1853.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending April 9, the births of 1891 children were registered in the metropolitan districts: of these, 791 were boys, and 800 were girls. In the eight corresponding weeks of the eight preceding years, the average number was 1363. The number of deaths registered in the week was 1340—being nearly 400 less than in the preceding week; but, still indicating that the health of London is not good, as the present number shows an excess of 283 above the estimated amount. The Registrar-General says that—"With the progress of the spring months, and a warmer sky, there is ground for expectation that the public health will speedily improve." To zymotic diseases there were 253 deaths registered (their average is 191): of these, 5 were to small-pox, 17 to measles, 37 to scarlatina, 80 to hooping-cough, 12 to croup, 20 to thrush, 49 to typhus. To tubercular diseases, 244 (their average is 191): of these, 165 are attributed to consumption. To diseases of the brain, nerves, and senses, 158. To diseases of the lungs and of the other organs of respiration, 323 (their average is 172): of these, 13 were due to laryngitis, 186 to bronchitis, 98 to pneumonia; and 21 deaths are referred to violence, privation, cold, and intemperance. With reference to fatal diseases, a comparison of the facts of the last two weeks discovers, generally, a decrease. Typhus has declined from 77 to 49; bronchitis, from 231 to 186; pneumonia, from 122 to 98; consumption, from 179 to 165; but hooping-cough carried off 80 children.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—An accident of a singular nature occurred at the office of the Electric Telegraph Company, Strand, on Friday week. The usual communications were made with Greenwich Observatory, in preparation for dropping the Strand ball. At three minutes before one o'clock there was at Greenwich a very vivid flash of lightning, followed by loud thunder. This electric disturbance produced a galvanic current in the wire, which dropped the ball in the Strand three minutes before its correct time! The assistant had commenced unwinding the chain when the unexpected descent of the ball turned the winch violently, and struck him down, greatly alarming those present. The ball was again raised, and was dropped by the ordinary galvanic current at the usual time. At Greenwich nothing was known of the accident until information was transmitted from the Strand.

HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.—The third annual general meeting of the above charity was held on Monday, in the Hospital, Bloomsbury-square; Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., in the chair. The hon. secretary read the report, which stated that, during the year, the number of out-door patients had been 4236, and 332 persons had been received into the hospital, making a total of 4568. The expenditure for the past year had amounted to £1973 14s. 4d.; while the annual income was only £1186 2s. 11d.

SUNDAY OPENING OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—On Wednesday night a public meeting was held at the Vestry-room, King's-road, St. Pancras, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament in favour of the above object; Mr. J. Flather, churchwarden, in the chair. Mr. J. Pettie moved the first resolution, pledging the meeting to petition Parliament for the Sunday opening of the Crystal Palace, as likely to promote the mental, moral, and physical elevation of the people. The question, in reality, was one of education, and education at the present time was a subject of immense importance to the working classes. The Crystal Palace would be a great adult educational establishment; and, if closed on the Sunday, would be closed against the working classes altogether. With reference to the opposition offered to the Sunday opening, he had to complain of an unfair mode of proceeding. Petitions had been got up purporting to be from working men, but not more than one name in 500 attached was that of a working man, for he (Mr. Pettie) had had personal opportunity of proving this. He had himself last week obtained the signatures of 880 workmen to a petition in favour of the Sunday opening; and he hoped the signatures of children belonging to some remote Sunday-school in Wales would not be allowed by Parliament to weigh against the signatures of working men in London. The resolutions were carried unanimously.

ADULT ORPHAN INSTITUTION, REGENT'S-PARK.—On Monday a special general meeting of the friends to this institution was held in the board-room of the charity, Regent's-park; Vice-Admiral Bowles in the chair. The Rev. J. Lawrell was elected a member of the managing committee, and Mrs. G. Sutton a member of the ladies' committee. The annual report showed the total receipts during the past year (including a balance of £238 14s. 3d.) to have amounted to £2172 14s. 2d.; and, after all demands had been met, there was a balance of £220 6s. 7d.

CITY STREET ORDERLIES.—At a meeting of the Commissioners of Sewers on Tuesday last, the following report was almost unanimously agreed to:—It stated that "having considered the large additional expense incurred by the street orderly system of cleansing, as compared with the service rendered thereby, and being of opinion that in other respects a nuisance is created by the mode of carrying out the system, we recommend that the Court do revert to the plan of daily cleansing as it was in use prior to the street orderly system being adopted, and we think that if your officers carefully see that the contract for the once a day cleansing of every street and place be faithfully executed, the public will have no cause of complaint. We recommend that the penalty for non-removal of dust, &c., from the houses, be raised from 10s. to 20s. for each case of neglect therein, and that the clerk do advertise forthwith for tenders for the work, according to the system we have herein advised."

THE LATE DR. CHAMBERS.—The coroner's jury in this case has found, as a verdict, "That the death of deceased was caused by a diseased heart, under the influence possibly of prussic acid taken medicinally."

THE CONFESSION AT MARYLEBONE POLICE-COURT.—The police in Edinburgh have tried to find some corroborative circumstances of the confession of murder made before the magistrate at Marylebone Police-office on Wednesday week last. All their exertions have, however, failed to find the slightest trace of the alleged deed. There is no "Blair's close" in the Canongate, as stated by the person in custody; and, though a place goes by that name on the Castle-hill, all the inquiries have been ineffectual in connecting it with the statement of the party in London, who is believed in Edinburgh to be insane. The prisoner will be brought up again on Tuesday.

NEW EXTRA-MURAL CEMETERY.—On Monday the burial board of St. Pancras ratified an agreement between the Rev. E. P. Cooper, of Little Dalby, Leicester, and the burial board, for the purchase of eighty-seven acres of freehold land at Finchley, for the purposes of a cemetery for the parish. The price was £200 per acre.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—A meeting was held on Monday night in the Theatre of the Royal Institution; Sir R. Murchison, F.R.S., in the chair. Dr. Shaw read a paper by Mr. Finlay, on the subject of the currents of the Pacific Ocean. Its object was to show that it was the duty of this country to devote more attention to the currents of the Pacific Ocean, and to become as well acquainted with them as with those of the Atlantic, inasmuch as by the adoption of this principle it would open up great advantages as soon as the contemplated canal in the Isthmus of Darien shall be completed. After an elaborate description of the scheme, with frequent reference to maps and diagrams, the scheme was recommended to the attention of the society and all geographers.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, BROMPTON.—On Sunday morning a sermon in aid of the above charity was delivered in St. Mark's Church, Kennington, by the Rev. Charlton Lane, M.A. During a very eloquent discourse, the reverend gentleman gave a variety of statistics of the good effected by the institution, not merely among the afflicted of a single portion of the metropolis, but of every district in the United Kingdom. A liberal collection was made at the conclusion of divine service. In further aid of the same benevolent cause, the Marquis of Westminster has undertaken to preside over the anniversary in June next.

BETHLEM HOSPITAL.—The house committee of Bethlem Hospital have resolved, that in consequence of the appointment of a resident physician, it was not necessary to continue the office of visiting physician; but that Dr. Monro should be elected consulting physician to the hospital, receiving the usual remuneration.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW.—On Monday evening a general meeting of this society was held at its rooms; Mr. Cooks in the chair. The committee reported, and the meeting adopted, a series of resolutions on reform in the Ecclesiastical Courts.

THE NEW CAR REGULATIONS.—The Commissioners of Police have fixed Monday, the 2nd of May, as the day for holding, at their offices, in Scotland-yard, the sessions for the renewal of licenses to the drivers and conductors of public vehicles in the metropolis.

ENORMOUS SUPPLY OF FISH.—Wednesday and the previous day, so very extensive were the consignments of fish at Billingsgate, that the market was completely glutted. Such an extraordinary supply has not been known for the last five years, and it had the effect of reducing the prices more than two-thirds; coarse descriptions, plaice, hake, &c., were a complete drug, and sold at merely nominal prices. The greatest portion of this large supply was brought by the South-Eastern, South-Western, Great Western, and Eastern Counties Railways; but the live fish, cod, &c., for crimping, were conveyed by the Barking and Gravesend well smacks, as usual.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.—On Sunday morning a fire broke out in the premises of Mr. Robson, coach-currer, No. 33, Lisle-street, Leicester-square. Mr. Robson's premises were large, and contained some thousand pounds' worth of property; and the fire was not got under until the upper part of the factory was destroyed, and the valuable contents seriously injured by water, &c. The premises of Mr. Bingham, Mr. George Chapman, and Mr. Grefenille, were likewise damaged by water, fire, &c.—On Monday another fire broke out in the premises of Mr. Hodges, a cabinet-maker, Garden-row, London road, Southwark, and was not extinguished until the upper workshop and its valuable contents were destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown; and Mr. Hodges was not insured.

EXTENSIVE FORGERIES.—WESTMINSTER.—Lord Jermyn attended at this court on Wednesday, to give evidence against Robert, alias Richard Pope, alias Richard Edwards, his late butler, who had been remanded from a previous day, charged with committing a series of extensive forgeries. Mr. Culverwell, a fruiterer, Little Chester-street, proved that he had discounted a bill for £100, signed "Jermyn"; and his Lordship was called to deny the handwriting. Mr. Brittain, of Sidney-street, Brompton, also proved to two bills of £60, and two others of £25 each—all of which proved forgeries. The accused promised Mr. Brittain a boar's head in his Lordship's name, and absolutely sent a post-office order from the country for the interest upon the dishonoured bill, purporting to be signed by his master. In the case of a Mr. Curtis, £100 was obtained on a forged bill, by the accused pretending that the Marquis of Bristol and Lord Jermyn would, as governors of Christ's Hospital, give him a presentation for his son. Besides the above cases, there were £600 worth of forged bills in court.

SAD ACCIDENT TO MR. FREDERICK KEENE.—Wednesday evening a shocking accident happened to Mr. Keene, of Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street, which has placed his life in imminent peril. Mr. Keene and a friend were examining a gun, and not anticipating that it was loaded, they handled it rather carelessly, and Mr. Keene having struck the butt end sharply against the floor, the weapon exploded, lodging the contents in his right jaw, and carrying off a portion of the cheek. The wounded gentleman was at once conveyed to King's College Hospital, and from the extent of the wound his recovery is extremely doubtful.

GREAT FORGERY IN THE CITY.—On Thursday a respectably-dressed man, named Robert Renton, aged twenty-five, a clerk in the house of Messrs. Whitecombe and Barton, metal-brokers, of Old Broad-street, was brought before Alderman Hunter, charged with forging, on the 7th inst., a cheque for £1300, on Roberts and Co. It appeared a blank cheque had been signed and left in expectation of being called for. The prisoner filled up the cheque, marked on the counterfoil "cancelled," and obtained the money from the bankers, in two notes, £1000 and £300. These he got changed at the Bank of England for £800 in sovereigns and £500 in small notes, saying they were for Australia. Since then he has evaded the police, till Wednesday night, when he was taken in Spencer-street, Goswell-street-road. He denied himself at first; but the officers told him who they were, and, then searching him, they found £240 in notes, 836 sovereigns in a bag, 4s. 10d. in silver, a gold watch and chain and eye-glass, diamond rings, a large amount of plate, and a new equipment of clothes, &c., apparently prepared for a voyage. He had been in Messrs. Whitecombe's service since August, 1852, and had recently been married. The prisoner, who declined saying anything, was sent to Newgate for trial.

FESTIVITIES IN BELGIUM.

THE DUKE DE BRABANT.

MR. DISRAELI said the other day of the King of the Belgians, that he was the wisest and most accomplished of living Princes, and the observation was made with the apparent concurrence of a crowded House of Commons. When the French Revolution broke out in 1848, Belgium, under a despotic and unpopular Government, would have quivered to her centre, and would probably have thrown herself into the arms of republican France: but it is hardly too much to say that Belgium at that moment did not contain a single disaffected political agitator. All the efforts of the French Socialists failed to rouse the Belgian people into insurrection. England was, to some extent protected by her insular position from feeling the shock of the revolutionary earthquake; but that a people speaking the same language, and inhabiting a contiguous territory, should regard with pity and compassion the political convulsions which appeared to bring to their changeable neighbours liberty and political power, must be regarded as no inconsiderable tribute to the wise constitutional rule of King Leopold.

The Belgian people have during the last few days availed themselves of another opportunity of evincing their attachment to the royal family. The eldest son of the King, his Royal Highness the Duke de Brabant, attained his eighteenth year on the 9th of April; and the auspicious event was celebrated with great rejoicing on Saturday last throughout the kingdom. The Duke de Brabant and Prince Royal of Belgium was born at Brussels on the 9th of April, 1835. In virtue of the Constitution, the Duke de Brabant attains his political majority at eighteen, and may succeed to the throne at that age. He also, by an article of the Constitution, becomes of right a senator on attaining the age of eighteen.

The ceremonies and festivities of the day commenced at Brussels with the installation of the Duke de Brabant as a member of the Belgian Senate. The Palace of the Nation, in which the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies hold their meetings, is a magnificent edifice, erected by Guimard, in 1783, and ornamented with six Ionic columns. On both sides of the spacious hall is a marble staircase, one leading to the Chamber of Deputies, and the other to that of the Peers. The interior of the Senate was decorated with the national colours, and fitted up with the greatest taste for the occasion. A great number of ladies were present, the elegance of whose costumes gave gaiety to the scene. The Ministers of all the foreign



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE DE BRABANT.

powers were present, and the Senators attended in full official costume. The Ministers of the King were also in full dress, and wore their orders. At about one, the Count de Flandres, the second son of the King, and his sister, the Princess Charlotte, entered the Royal tribune. In a few minutes afterwards the Prince, their brother, arrived, amidst the usual salutes from the military assembled near the place, and the

cries of "Vive le Roi" from the people. The Duke de Brabant, who bowed in the most graceful manner to the assembly, was attired in the costume of a senator. He is tall for his age; for, although only eighteen, he has the appearance of being twenty-two. His countenance bears a strong resemblance to that of the late Queen, his mother. After he had taken his seat in a fauteuil prepared for him in the centre of the hall, opposite the president, the Prince de Ligne reminded the future successor of Leopold I. of the patriotic services and enlightened conduct of that monarch, "the faithful observer of sworn faith;" then, after alluding to the virtues of the beloved and much-regretted Queen, he concluded by saying, "Come forward, Prince, and swear to defend our institutions. From on high your sainted mother sees you, and here below Belgium listens to you."

The Duke de Brabant made a very suitable reply. He congratulated himself on having entered upon parliamentary life, where he might be able to acquire experience in public affairs; and devoted himself in the strongest terms to the independence and future welfare of the country. His speech was hailed with unanimous marks of applause. The Prince afterwards took the oath to observe the Constitution, and the President declared him to be a Member of the Senate. The Duke de Brabant then left the hall, accompanied by the Ministers; and on his departure was hailed with loud cries of "Vive le Roi," as on his entrance.

After the ceremony, the Senate and the Chamber of Representatives went in state separately to the Palace, in order to present addresses of congratulation to the King. His Majesty appeared profoundly touched by the affectionate homage of the two Chambers. In his reply to the address of the Chamber of Deputies, the King said:—

These fine provinces for ages sought to live their own individual life, but fortune and unfavourable circumstances frustrated their repeated attempts. To-day you have a dynasty which is entirely yours. This dynasty has identified itself with the country, and your interests have always been placed before its own. I see among you many political men who can say whether this assertion is not true. (Cries of "Yes yes!" "Vive le Roi!" "Vivent les Princes!") I will venture to say that my sons are worthy of the feeling which the country has manifested for them. The Duke of Brabant (the Crown Prince) has for several years studied public affairs; I have found in him very much of judgment and good sense. I have instructed him freely and without reserve in all that is essential and useful in the affairs of the nation. My second son is animated by the same feelings. Both are devoted to the country and its institutions. Should our circumstances become difficult, or danger menace us—which, however, I do not believe is to be apprehended—you will find them devoted friends, courageous defenders. ("Vive le Roi!" "Vivent les Princes!") Gentlemen, let us all hold together, and we shall pass happily through whatever trials may be in store for us. For us this union is so much the more easy, inasmuch



ILLUMINATION IN THE RUE DE LA LOI, AT BRUSSELS.

as I have rarely seen an assembly more patriotic, more wise, more moderate. Again I say, let us be united, and the future of Belgium will be prosperous.

In the afternoon, the King laid the first stone of the viaduct of the rue de la Loi; and afterwards performed the same ceremony at the Aqueduct of Ixelles, by means of which the city of Brussels will shortly receive an abundant supply of pure water, which, in the words of the authorities, will embellish the promenades, refresh the atmosphere, ascend to the top of the highest houses, disputing with fire its prey, and substituting a more wholesome beverage for the water hitherto obtained from wells. In three years Brussels will receive a large and liberal distribution of water by the completion of this undertaking. This ceremony concluded at half-past four.

In the evening, the city of Brussels was brilliantly illuminated. The illumination was universal. Palaces, churches, the public edifices, the hotels, private dwellings of all kinds; streets, boulevards, lanes, courts, and alleys—all were illuminated. The great arteries of the city presented a blaze of light. An immense concourse of persons filled the streets, who expressed by their exclamations the delight they experienced from the splendour of the illuminations and transparencies. The rue de la Loi (of which we give a sketch) was embellished by illuminations of gas of dazzling brilliancy. The edifice on the left is the Palace of the Nation, and beyond it are the hotels of the Ministers; on the right is the entrance of the Park. The design of the illumination before the Chamber of Representatives, was that of a gigantic escutcheon, in which figured the Belgic lion, surmounted by the Royal crown. At the angle of the street was the cipher of the King within a wreath of gas.

The Park of Brussels must be well remembered by all the visitors of that Paris in miniature. The walks are lined with lofty trees, and verdant slopes and thickets give it a more natural appearance than is usually found in French gardens. During the summer, concerts in the open air in the Park attract all the *beau monde* of Brussels.

The beautiful tower of the Hôtel de Ville, illuminated with Bengal-lights, was another great object of attraction with the multitudes who perambulated the streets. The Hôtel de Ville of Brussels is regarded as one of the finest buildings of the Lombardo-Gothic style of architecture. Its tower, built in the Gothic style, is 364 feet high. It is of pyramidal form, and when lit up by the Bengal-fire, its light and elegant workmanship was seen to great advantage. The illumination was accompanied by the letting off a quantity of fireworks from the top of the tower. The chief incident of historical interest connected with the building is, that, in



THE HOTEL DE VILLE, BRUSSELS, ILLUMINATED.

doms and states; and, on the 7th of September, 1556, he solemnly abdicated the Imperial throne.

The festivities of the fashionable world were concluded by a magnificent ball at the Hôtel de Ville, to which the King and Royal suite repaired, after his Majesty had entertained the Senate at a grand banquet in the hall of the Concert Noble at Vauxhall. The Great Hall was tastefully and brilliantly decorated for the ball. The King, the Princes, and the Princess Charlotte arrived at the Hôtel de Ville at a quarter-past ten. The Duke de Brabant had for his partner, in the first *contre danse*, the Infante Isabelle de Bourbon, who was resplendent with diamonds, and who wore a robe of blue moire, over which was a magnificent *jupe* of lace. About eleven o'clock, a noise as of thunder, which filled the dancers with alarm, seemed to announce the fall of the whole building. For an instant a frightful panic seized upon the guests, when it was announced that the noise was made by the fall of the fireworks from the tower.

On the morning of Sunday a "Te Deum" was celebrated in the Cathedral of St. Gudule, which was attended by the King, the Royal family, the Senate, and other high personages.

The rejoicings of Brussels have been imitated in the provinces, where the excitement was equally great as in the capital. At Antwerp, Bruges, Ghent, Louvain, and Malines, the happy event of the political majority of the Prince de Brabant has been celebrated with an enthusiasm which augurs well for the political contentment of the people, the permanence of the Monarchy, and the popularity of the reigning dynasty.

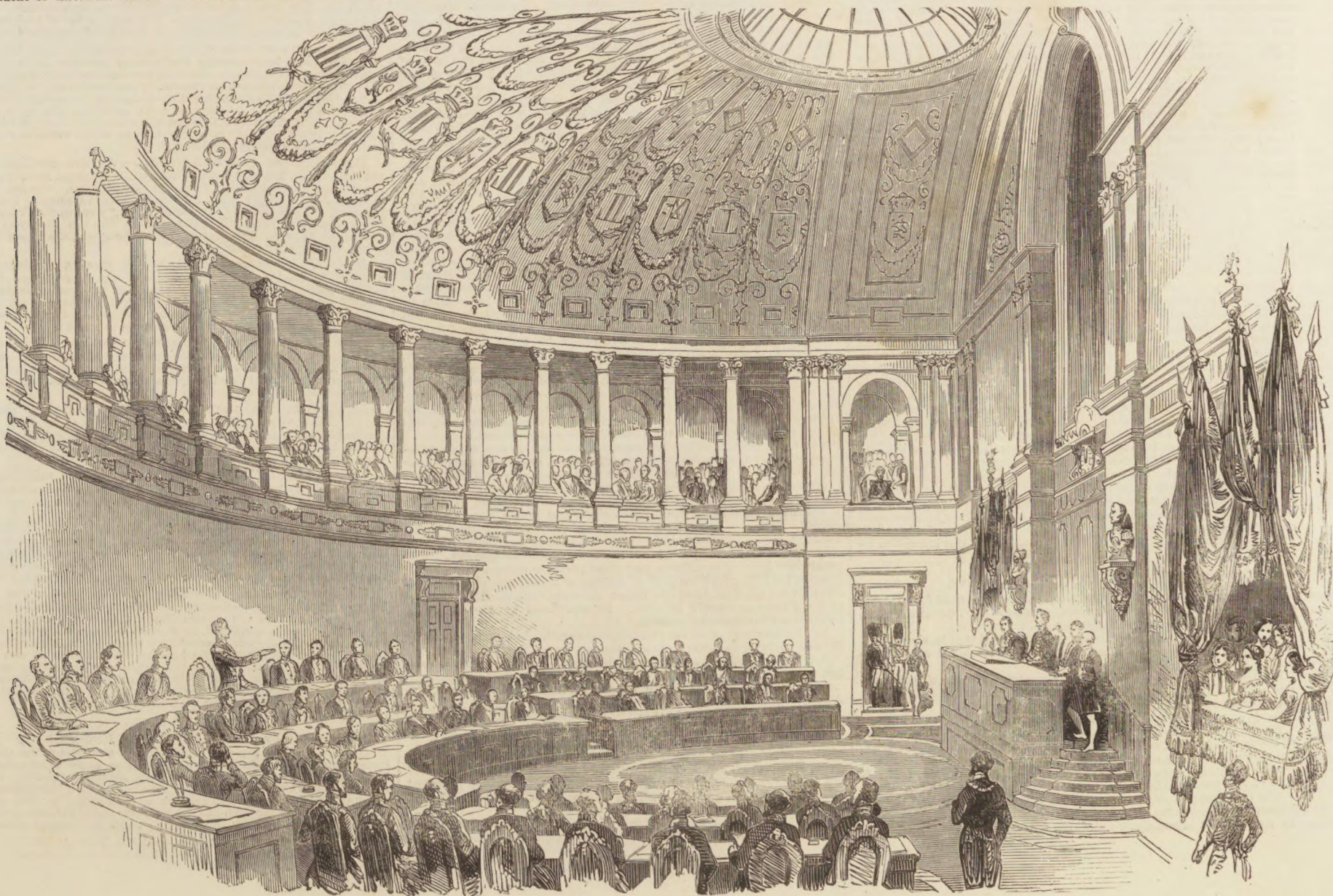
The young Duke de Brabant, the Count de Flandres, and the Princess Charlotte, the children of King Leopold, by the late lamented Queen Louise of Orleans, have paid several visits to Queen Victoria, to whom they are nearly related. The Duchess of Kent is the sister of Leopold, who is not only uncle to the Queen, but also to Prince Albert. The King of the Belgians is a Protestant; but his Royal children are brought up in the religion of their mother, who was a Catholic.

On the day of his majority, the King, wishing to give his eldest son a new mark of his tender affection, gave him the Grand Cordon of the Order of Leopold. On the same day, the young Prince Royal was appointed Major of Infantry; while his brother, the Count de Flandres, was promoted to be Major of Cavalry.

Madame Van de Weyer, wife of his Excellency the Belgian Minister, gave an entertainment on Saturday evening, at the residence of the Belgian Legation, in Portland-place in celebration of the coming of age of the Duke de Brabant.

the Great Hall, on the 25th Oct., 1556, Charles V., surrounded by a splendid Court, gave to his son, Philip II., the government of Burgundy. The next year he added the sovereignty of his other king-

his Excellency the Belgian Minister, gave an entertainment on Saturday evening, at the residence of the Belgian Legation, in Portland-place in celebration of the coming of age of the Duke de Brabant.



INSTALLATION OF THE DUKE DE BRABANT, PRINCE ROYAL, AS MEMBER OF THE BELGIAN SENATE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

On the motion of the Earl of ABERDEEN, their Lordships agreed to concur with the Commons in an address for a commission to inquire into corrupt practices at the late election for Canterbury, after some objections by Lord LYNCHURST and Lord ST. LEONARDS, on the ground that the report of the Commons' committee did not use the words of the act.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Lord J. RUSSELL stated the opinion of the law officers of the Crown to be that, in the event of the clergy reserves being secularised by the Legislature of Canada, and of the act receiving the Royal assent, there would be no claim for any payment from the Consolidated Fund.

On the order of the day for the third reading of the Clergy Reserves (Canada) Bill, Mr. WALPOLE moved to defer the third reading for six months. He objected to the bill that endowments to Roman Catholics could not be touched without the authority of the Imperial Parliament, while endowments to Protestants in Canada could be dealt with and destroyed by a majority of the Canadian Legislature alone.

A debate ensued, in which the former arguments for and against the bill were repeated, with very little novelty. The only noticeable feature in the discussion was, that Mr. KER SEYMOUR and Sir E. DERING, who usually act with the Opposition, supported the bill, on the ground that it would tend to preserve the union between Canada and the mother country. Lord J. RUSSELL did not shrink from the consequence, that, if the people of Canada thought that Church establishments were not for their benefit, and preferred the voluntary principle, they must follow their own will. Self-government in local concerns was the only principle upon which we could retain Canada; and if our legislation were founded upon generous principles, the connexion would continue, and be a source of prosperity to both countries. Upon a division, the third reading was carried by 288 to 208; and the bill passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Earl GRANVILLE, in reply to Lord Campbell, stated that the First Commissioner of Public Works was about to restore the site of the Crystal Palace to its original condition. The expense would be charged to the contractors, who had failed to comply with their contract herein.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION.

Lord LYTTELTON, in an interesting and valuable speech, moved that the House go into committee on the Vaccination Extension Bill. He showed the wonderful progressive diminution of deaths from small-pox after the discovery of vaccination by Dr. Jenner.

The average of deaths from small-pox out of every 1000 deaths from all causes within the bills of mortality were in the 10 years preceding 1760, 100; 1770, 108; 1780, 98; 1790, 87; 1800, 88; 1810, 64; 1820, 42; 1830, 32; 1840, 23; 1850, 16. In Chelsea Royal Military Asylum, in 48 years, on an aggregate of 31,705, not one death had occurred from small-pox after vaccination, and only four from second attacks of unvaccinated persons. In Ahmedabad, in Bombay, where vaccination was introduced in 1817, it became general in 1825, and small-pox had since been unheard of. In Hanover, in 1847, of 45,830 deaths, there were only eight from small-pox. In Denmark at one period small-pox had entirely disappeared, so universal was the practice of vaccination. England and France were now the only countries in Europe in which vaccination was not compulsory. In some countries—as Hanover, Bavaria, and Sweden—the law was directly compulsory, by pecuniary penalties, which was the plan he proposed in the present bill. In Austria, Belgium, Sardinia, Prussia, and other countries vaccination was made indirectly compulsory by various means; and in Prussia no one was allowed to be married who could not show that he had been vaccinated. In Ireland, where the greatest ignorance and prejudice might be supposed to prevail on the subject, no less than 58,000 persons had died from small-pox in the ten years ending 1841; and in subsequent years, he believed, the state of matters was not much improved. In Connaught—which might be considered the part of Ireland where vaccination was most likely to be neglected—the number of deaths during the ten years ending 1841, were 60 in 1000; in Lombardy, there were 1½ in 1000, or 3 deaths in 2000. These were the two extremes. The average number of deaths in England and Wales during eight years was nearly 22 in 1000; whereas, in a long list of countries in which vaccination was compulsory, it ranged from 8 in 1000 in Saxony to the 1½ in Lombardy, and the average was not quite five. These facts showed that, in this country, the mortality from small-pox was more than four times as much as it was upon the Continent (Hear).

The present public provision for vaccination was, that in every union the guardians were empowered to contract with a medical man to vaccinate all children whose parents were not above bringing them to be vaccinated.

The result was, that there was a great want of uniformity as to the extent of vaccination in various parts of the country. In Birmingham, in 1851, the vaccinations were 91 per cent in the total number of births; in Leicester they were 41 per cent on the births; in Loughborough, 18; in Bideford, only 11 per cent upon the births. At present there was great delay before vaccination, which caused a great sacrifice of life. It was the opinion of medical men, that except under peculiar and exceptional circumstances, vaccination ought to be performed within four months of birth, and he proposed to bring down the time to three months. At present vaccination was often delayed until the second or third year. No system of vaccination could be considered otherwise than fundamentally defective under which a large number of children thus remain unprotected to the age of two or three. Out of the total number of 601,839 births for the year ending September, 29th, 1852, there had been 397,128 vaccinations by the public officers appointed for that purpose, and 203,029 of those thus vaccinated were above one year, and 194,089 under one year of age. This was a point upon which all the authorities laid the greatest stress, and the bill therefore proposed that vaccination should be made compulsory within a certain time. The bill enacted that all persons coming to this country were to be vaccinated, under a penalty; and notice was to be given to parents in reference to the vaccination of their children at the time when the birth was registered. The act only extended to England and Wales. It had been pressed upon his consideration that what was wanted was one complete system of national vaccination. There now existed a good deal of prejudice among the poor against the present arrangement, which they confounded with pauperism, supposing that, in taking their children to the public vaccinators they were receiving pauper relief. This was a very natural feeling, and if the machinery were separated entirely from that of the Poor-law Board the system would probably work better. It had been objected that, after all, the bill would not be compulsory, for that a person might pay the fine which the act imposed, and take away his child unvaccinated; but his own impression was, that, sooner than pay the fine, the great majority of parents would have their children vaccinated.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY supported the bill. He declared that the voluntary system had failed, and they must, therefore, resort to some other means of protecting society from this frightful disease, which was one of the most fatal that afflicted humanity. In 1835 the lives lost by small-pox in England and Wales were upwards of 16,000; the deaths registered for two years and a half ending December, 1839, were 30,000, or about 12,000 annually. But the destruction to life caused by small-pox could not be estimated by columns of deaths; where it did not at once destroy, it laid the foundation of many forms of disease—it led to blindness, deafness, active development of scrofula, consumption, and mesenteric disease. Vaccination was not compulsory in France; but the Vaccine Committee, in their last report, advised that France should at length follow the example of many other nations. He must say that he agreed in thinking that children should be vaccinated from the arm of a healthy child; for no doubt there was a prejudice against the virus from animals. If the bill were properly carried out, and remuneration given to those engaged under it, he believed they would soon exterminate the disease; and he had not the slightest doubt that generations to come would thank their Lordships for the attention they had bestowed on that important subject, and on the blessings that had resulted from it. The House went into committee on the bill, which was ordered to be read a third time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. BRAMSTON reported that Mr. Keogh was duly elected for Athlone, for which a new writ was then ordered, owing to that hon. gentleman's acceptance of the office of Solicitor-General for Ireland.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in answer to Mr. Adderley, said that he should consider pauper schools in his education scheme, but should not include schools for criminal children.

Mr. GASKELL moved an address for a commission to inquire into corrupt practices in the borough of Clitheroe. It appeared that there had been a large amount of intimidation and treating, but only one case of bribery, and a discussion arose. The motion was carried by 141 to 58.

Sir DE L. EVANS moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter the scale of duties on carriages, on the ground that the tax was unremunerative, that it was decreasing every year, and was open to very large evasions, besides being most vexatious to persons possessing carriages, and calculated still further to limit their use.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER agreed with most of the objections made to the tax; but, if the evil were to be met, it must be either by a sacrifice of revenue, or by plucking at the root of the exemptions.

With regard to the present intention of the Government, he would only refer them to his financial statement on Monday.

Sir DE LACY EVANS was satisfied with the answer of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and withdrew his motion.

Mr. I. BUTT moved an address to her Majesty in favour of maintaining for Irish soldiers the asylum of Kilmahnam Hospital—the abolition of which would be opposed to the feelings of the Irish nation, and injurious to the honour and interests of her Majesty's service. Lord G. PAGET seconded, and several Irish members supported the motion. Mr. S. HERRERT said the question was, would the House reverse a policy which it had three times approved, and which had been acted upon by two Governments? He showed that the feeling of the soldiers was rather in favour of the out pension; that it was not the long-service and badly-wounded men who sought the hospital, since they enjoyed the largest pension; and preferred living at home. Upon a division, the motion was carried against the Government by 198 against 131.

Mr. W. BROWN moved for a Select Committee to take into consideration and report to the House the practicability and advantages, or otherwise, that would arise from adopting a decimal system of coinage. The motion was agreed to, and the committee was ordered to consist of the following members:—Mr. W. Brown, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. J. Ball, Mr. Tufnell, Mr. Alderman Thompson, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. M. Forster, Lord Stanley, Mr. Moody, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. J. B. Smith, Sir W. Clay, the Marquis of Chandos, Sir W. Jolliffe, and Mr. Kinnaird.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

Lord HOTHAM moved the second reading of the Judges Exclusion Bill, which was agreed to after some discussion. It appeared that the bill is principally directed against the Master of the Rolls, who, it is contended, ought not to have a seat in Parliament. Lord PALMERSTON and Lord J. RUSSELL, however, objected to the bill, the tendency of which was to exclude from the deliberations of the House of Commons persons holding judicial offices, who would be amongst the greatest ornaments of the House, and be able to render the House much assistance in discussing measures of law reform. On the other side, the bill was supported by Sir F. KELLY, Mr. HUME, Sir J. PAKINGTON, and others, on the ground that it was inconsistent with the dignity of a high judicial officer to appear upon the hustings as a candidate for a populous borough, and that the judicial functions of the Master of the Rolls were incompatible with the due discharge of the duty of a member of Parliament.—Lord J. Russell would not, however, ask for a division against the bill, probably apprehending another Government defeat, and the bill was read a second time.

The House then went again into committee upon Mr. Milner Gibson's County-rates and Expenditure Bill; but had made no further progress than the fourth clause at six o'clock, when the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Their Lordships sat but a short time. The only business of importance transacted was the second reading of the Crystal Palace Company Bill, and the passing through committee of the Vaccination Bill.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. SPOONER gave notice that, when the Miscellaneous Estimates came on, he would bring under the consideration of the House the grant to Maynooth.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON called the attention of the House to the injurious effects of the Taxes on Knowledge, and said he would take the sense of the House separately on each of the following resolutions:—

1. That the Advertisement Duty should be repealed.
2. That the policy of restraining the cheap periodical press from narrating current events by making it liable to duties and other restrictions, if "any public news, intelligence, or occurrences, or any remarks or observations thereon," be contained therein, is inexpedient, and at variance with the desire now generally expressed in favour of the diffusion of knowledge among all classes; and it appears also to this House that the law relative to taxes on newspapers, and other regulations affecting public prints, is in an unsatisfactory state, and demands the attention of Parliament.
3. That the Excise duty on paper, while impeding the development of an important manufacture, also materially obstructs the production of good cheap literature; and the maintenance of this tax as a permanent source of revenue would be impolitic and inconsistent with the efforts which Parliament is now making to promote education among the great body of the people.

He had proposed these resolutions in consequence of having observed that, for the last 130 years, the taxes to which they referred had been dealt with at the same time. The taxes to which the resolutions had reference were part of a system which was originally adopted to restrain the press, but still he proposed that the resolutions should be put separately, and those who could not support the whole would be entitled to support such parts of the resolutions as they approved of. The right honourable gentleman said that the third resolution, which, in the eyes of the Chancellor, might be considered the most important, affected an amount of taxation of £900,000 a year. He, however, only asked the House to declare its opinion that it was a tax which ought not to be continued longer than was absolutely necessary. It was quite clear that the paper duty was inexpedient. Paper was made out of a worthless raw material; it employed vast numbers of people, and was essentially a rural manufacture. Complaints were made of the vast extent of emigration that was going on. Some of our best labourers were leaving the land; and if the House wished to stem this tide of emigration, let them at once remove this obnoxious tax and all similar duties that oppressed the industry of the land. What was the effect of this tax upon the trade of the country? Why, precisely this—the foreigner came into our markets, and after purchasing up all the raw material to be obtained, carried it to countries where there was no paper-tax (Hear). It was then manufactured into paper, and the paper itself was afterwards sent out to supply our colonies. When the paper duties were first passed, in the reign of Queen Anne, an exemption was made in favour of books printed in Latin or Greek, and the time had arrived when a peculiar exemption ought to be made in favour of books printed in the English language (Hear). It retarded the spread of useful information and intelligence among the people, while it was unequal in its operation. For instance, to produce an extensive encyclopedia for the rich, the publisher would have to pay a tax of £1000, whereas, if the work was published at such a price as to be suited to the pocket of the poor man, the tax would amount to £6000. What a mockery it was to talk about educating the people, while this inexpedient system of taxation was continued. But this tax was levied upon an exceptional rule; for, while the dealer in tobacco and spirits was allowed to sell his goods in bond, the author had no such boon conceded to him, but was obliged to pay all the tax before he could enter upon his speculation. No matter whether this tax was continued or not, cheap publications must be published, for the people would have them, and it was now for the Legislature to determine whether this class of publications should be good in quality as well as cheap in price. Having dwelt at considerable length upon the evils attending the advertisement duty; and the restraints to which the press generally was subjected, he concluded by submitting his three propositions.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, he was opposed to entertaining any of the resolutions of the right hon. gentleman the member for Manchester, particularly at a time when no substitute was proposed to meet a reduction in the taxation involving so large a sum as £1,250,000. It was the intention of the Government to bring in a bill to remove all doubts as to the state of the law in respect to this subject. (Cries of "Oh, oh!") He thought it would be most undesirable that the House should be induced to make any pledges upon a subject which it was impossible for them afterwards to perform. Proposals had been made within a very short period to reduce, by such motions as the present, upwards of £7,000,000 of taxes; and if such propositions were attended to by the House, the occupation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be gone. He concluded by moving as an amendment the previous question.

Mr. BRIGHT supported the resolutions generally, but more especially the one applying to the reduction of the newspaper stamp.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS and Mr. DIGBY SEYMOUR also supported the resolutions.

After some observations from Mr. J. Phillimore, Mr. Ricardo, the Attorney-General, and Mr. Wilkinson,

Lord J. RUSSELL thought that the House should wait until Monday, when the financial statement would be brought forward. He admitted the advertisement duty to be a serious interference with the business of the country, and therefore stood upon grounds different from the penny stamp duty, which carried with it some equivalent, and formed but a small portion of the price of the daily newspapers. He protested against arguing the question until the Chancellor of the Exchequer had made his financial statement.

Mr. DISRAELI reminded the House of the course he had pursued last year with respect to these taxes, when he drew a distinction between

the duties on paper and the two other propositions for abolishing the advertisement duty and the penny stamp; and he also drew a distinction between the advertisement duty and the penny stamp. From what had been said by Lord Derby, it was clear that his Government thought the earliest opportunity should be taken to reduce the duty on advertisements, and he had, therefore, only to consider now how far the revenue was able to bear this reduction. They had now a larger surplus than formerly, and the amount of the advertisement duty was so inconsiderable, that although he could not at present recommend the abolition of all the three duties, yet he thought they might repeal the duty on advertisements. (Cheers). He would have the House to approach this question with caution, and he therefore recommended the House to agree to the first resolution of the right hon. gentleman the member for Manchester.

Mr. J. BALL had intended to vote for the resolution of Mr. M. Gibson, but, after the speech of Mr. Disraeli, he would never consent to make a bridge of his right hon. friend to enable the Conservatives to get into power.

Mr. CORDEN said it appeared to him that Mr. Ball had changed his mind because he found that the motion was likely to be carried. For his own part, he most heartily accepted the assistance of all parties in that House to get rid of the advertisement duty (Cheers).

Mr. J. M'GREGOR said he would support the resolutions of Mr. Gibson. Lord R. GROSVENOR said that, although on the last occasion he had voted in favour of the proposition of Mr. Gibson, under the peculiar circumstances of the question at present, he would vote against him.

Sir J. PAKINGTON thought the resolution of Lord R. Grosvenor an extraordinary one, seeing that he himself had pressed a motion for a remission of taxation against the remonstrances of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. MAGUIRE having made a few observations in support of the original resolutions, the House divided, when the numbers were—

For the first resolution	200
Against it	169
Majority against the Government ..	—31

The resolution in favour of the abolition of the advertisement duty was therefore carried.

On the second resolution a division also took place, when the numbers were—

For the second resolution	98
Against it	280
Majority in favour of the Government ..	—182

A third division also took place upon the third resolution of Mr. Gibson, when the numbers were—

For the third resolution	80
Against it	275
Majority in favour of the Government ..	—195

Adjourned.

ELECTION COMMITTEES.—Since the re-assembling of Parliament, several election committees have been appointed: some have made their return, and some are still engaged in inquiries. The following have been decided:—*Dartmouth*: Sir T. Herbert, duly elected.—*Athlone*: Mr. Keogh retains his seat, being properly qualified.—*Taunton*: Mr. Arthur Mills unseated: agents guilty of bribery.

LANCASTER ELECTION.—The polling took place on Tuesday. The proceedings were throughout very peaceable and orderly: but, from the commencement, it was apparent that Mr. Greene would be returned. At the conclusion of the poll the numbers were:—For Mr. Greene, 663; for Mr. Armstrong, 543: majority for Mr. Greene, 125.

CARLOW COUNTY.—The writ for this county has been transmitted to the High Sheriff. It is stated that Mr. John Sadler will offer himself, and with every prospect of success. Captain Keogh and Mr. Walsh are also spoken of; but, as yet, no candidate has addressed the constituency.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

DUBLIN EXHIBITION.—In every department of the Great Exhibition Building the most rapid progress is being daily made, the time fixed for the opening being now little more than a month distant. The choral societies of this city, as well as those of Belfast, Cork, Limerick, and other towns, have been invited to attend the opening. Goods continue to arrive daily, and another temporary store-room has been opened at the northern side of the building for the reception of articles of British manufacture.

MR. ALDERMAN ANDREWS, late Mayor of Southampton, has again been honoured by her Majesty the Queen with an order for a new pony carriage, similar to the one which he built for her about two years ago. Her Majesty is well pleased with the phaeton which she has already purchased from Mr. Andrews, who, at the Grand Industrial Exhibition of 1851, received the prize medal for the best pony carriage, and two handsome volumes containing the jurors' reports, as a reward for the taste and ability displayed by him on that occasion.

THE AFRICAN MAIL STEAMERS.—The *Hope* screw-steamer, built by Mr. Laird, of Birkenhead, was tested, with highly satisfactory results, on Saturday, on the Mersey; and she sailed for London on Tuesday, whence she is to take her departure for the African coast. Her tonnage is 922, builders' measurement. Her engines are of 200-horse power, and her accommodation for passengers is on a very superior scale.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—A proposition upon this subject having recently been made by the Board of Trade to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, that body has declined to entertain it, on the ground that such matters are not simply connected with the improvement of practical agriculture, but had a direct bearing on prospective legislation, which the society is precluded from meddling with by a stringent condition in its charter. A decision of the kind obviously shuts out the society from aiding in the collection of facts, which would be of great importance to the whole landed interest.

MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.—We are gratified to hear that this lady (who has recently arrived in England from the United States) has nearly recovered from her recent illness. She has been the guest of John Cropper, Esq., of Dingle Bank, Liverpool. On Monday morning, the children of "Cropper's School," went to Mr. Cropper's residence, and were introduced to Mrs. Stowe. She left Liverpool on Wednesday, by railway, for Glasgow, where she attended a grand honorary soiree, on Thursday evening.

MRS. C. CHISHOLM.—This lady is at present in Liverpool, the guest of W. Hashbone, Esq., Greenbank. On Saturday last she visited several ladies and gentlemen interested in emigration, including the Ladies' Committee of the Liverpool Emigrants' Home. On the 23rd, she will attend the Saturday evening concert in Liverpool, when the Mayor (Samuel Holme, Esq.,) has consented to preside.

NEW GRAVING DOCK, SOUTHAMPTON.—Messrs. Baker and Son, of London, have taken the contract for the gigantic new graving dock, the works of which will be commenced forthwith. These gentlemen built the Custom-house, and also the Queen's-warehouse, and other buildings, in the Southampton Docks.

NEW MAGISTRATES FOR LIVERPOOL.—On Monday the following gentlemen were appointed magistrates of that borough, viz., the Venerable Archdeacon Brooks, the Rev. Rector Campbell, Mr. J. D. Anderson, Mr. Francis A. Hamilton, Mr. James Still, and Mr. Daniel Mathan—three Liberals and three Conservatives.

THE "OSMANLI."—This screw steamer, which sailed on Saturday week for Melbourne from Liverpool, returned to that port on Monday with a slight leak, occasioned by a defective rivet, which was replaced, and she sailed again on Tuesday.

ABSCONDING OF A RAILWAY OFFICIAL.—Mr. H. Cole, the station-master at Ipswich, has absconded. All moneys received at the station passed through his hands; and some discrepancy being discovered in his accounts, a rigid inquiry was determined upon. Apprehensive of the result, Cole took his departure by the late train on Monday night.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The Bishop of Durham has sent the following reply to an application for assistance (to free the chapel from debt) from the congregation of Bethesda Chapel, Gateshead:—"Sir,—Although my principal care is employed, as it ought to be, in the relief and assistance of those who are more immediately under my superintendence, yet I am happy in extending the right-hand of fellowship to all who love the Lord Jesus. I have, therefore, much pleasure in forwarding to you £10 towards the liquidation of your debt; and can only regret that the urgent and continually-increasing demands upon my purse do not allow me to send more.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, E. DUNELM."

COMMUNICATION TO THE NORTH OF EUROPE.—The Electric Telegraph Company are conveying electric wires from the Colchester station to Orfordness, in Suffolk; from thence a submarine cable will be laid down to Scheveningen, Holland, thus giving this country means of communication with the Continent. It is believed that the Electric Telegraph Company have selected Ipswich as the locality for their principal office: it is to be on the Corn-hill. Active operations will be commenced as soon as the requisite pipes are finished. These will be sunk underground to the depth of about two feet.

FINE ARTS.

LORD NELSON ON THE MORNING OF THE "BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR."
By CHARLES LUCY.

Mr. Lucy has just completed a very interesting historical picture, representing England's naval hero seated in the cabin of the *Victory* half an hour before the Battle of Trafalgar, and meditating upon his immortal signal, "England expects every Man will do his Duty." Having inspected this work at the rooms of Messrs. Squire and Co., in Cockspur-street, we must bear testimony to the very great skill and taste displayed in its execution. Nelson, sitting in an easy and dignified repose, rests his head upon his hand, which is clenched in a manner which reveals the determined energy of his mind. The face, which is drawn after the original *terra-cotta* masque taken when Nelson was at Naples, bears a thoughtful and somewhat melancholy expression, as if charged with a presentiment of the fate which was awaiting him even in the hour of victory. The figure and limbs are moulded with great roundness and softness; the few accessories—including his diary, his watch, and his celebrated testament, in which he commends his daughter to the British nation—are introduced with good effect; and the general tone is very harmonious and pleasing.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART.

The following very important minute has just been issued by the Board of Trade:—

My Lords take into consideration the estimates about to be submitted to Parliament for affording aid to the local schools of art during the year ending the 31st of March, 1854.

At the establishment of the schools it was understood that a Government grant was promised for a limited period of three years, upon the condition that a sum equivalent to it was raised in the locality, and in the expectation that after three years the schools would be so established and supported as not to require any further assistance from Government. These expectations have not been fulfilled; but, on the contrary, the tendency of the system, until very lately, has been to encourage increased reliance on Government aid, rather than upon the value of the instruction or local exertions, and has been found adverse to economy. My Lords are of opinion, that by more judicious arrangements it may be possible greatly to increase the advantages which now result from the outlay of so large a sum of public money; and while they do not propose to withdraw grants from the places which now receive them, they are desirous to introduce a system of greater efficiency and economy, by which the independence of the local bodies may be increased, and the objects of the Parliamentary vote more adequately attained. My Lords desire to relieve the localities altogether from the obligation to raise a sum equivalent to the Parliamentary vote, and instead to leave the whole general management, and the control of the cost of it, entirely to the local committees. In future, the local committees will not be required to return to this Board any account of their local expenditure, or of any receipts from subscriptions or donations; each local committee will, therefore, determine for itself what premises shall be used—subject, of course, to their being considered by my Lords as suitable for the purposes of instruction—what rent shall be paid, what furniture provided, what managing officers, servants, &c., shall be engaged, and what shall be the cost of general management.

My Lords, on their part, propose to confine the Parliamentary grants wholly to the promotion of instruction, and even in this point to exercise control only so long as the local committee elects to receive the Parliamentary aid. Their Lordships would receive it as the highest mark of the progress and success of art education, in any locality, to find that the committee preferred independence of the Government grant altogether. My Lords will require that the Parliamentary grant for the year ending the 31st of March, 1854, should be paid to the following objects:—The present masters' salaries; an increase of masters where necessary, especially for affording instruction to public schools; pupil teachers; and to deserving students in holding scholarships both in local and metropolitan schools; and to students in training to become masters; lectures and examples for teaching. After communication with local committees, my Lords will apportion the grant to these respective items.

As the fees paid by the students may be considered as the product, partly, of the grants furnished by Parliament, and partly of the funds raised in the locality, my Lords will require as a condition of receiving any Parliamentary aid that an equitable portion of the fees shall be applied towards instruction; and, in accordance with the minute of the 28th of January, 1853, and for the reasons given in the letter of the 30th of June, 1852, which has been sanctioned by the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, they propose that such portion of the fees shall be paid to the master or masters of the school as part of their income.

HENRY COLE, Secretary.

The educational estimates for the current year give £398,493 as the sum assigned to these national purposes from the public purse. The vote for the Board of Trade Department of Science and Art, exhibiting a total increase upon last year's demand of £11,636, indicates the operation of the resolutions announced in the Ministerial exposition. The "Division of Art, Central School, and Museum" are aided by a grant of £7018, instead of £4468. These are the exhibitions alluded to by Lord John Russell "for the present to be placed in Marlborough-house, to give an interest to matters relating to arts and manufactures, so as to improve the public taste in regard to them." Provision is likewise made in this vote for lectures, technical instruction, examinations, prizes, and scholarships, an increase being shown under each of these heads. There are, besides, attendants found for all exigencies, and a training master in this department also for elementary teachers. Over and above the particular charges thus provided for there is an allotment of £7550 for local schools of art receiving Parliamentary aid, and a further concession of the same amount to "self-supporting" institutions of this description. The latter establishments are to be supplied with "examples" or specimens at half the prime cost through Government aid, here furnished to the extent of £4000; £1000 only having been devoted to such purpose in the year last past. A "Department of Science and Art," too, is rated this year at £2335 instead of £2285; and the regular tendency to increase in every item of these services shows how diligently the agencies thus created are now put in requisition.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR CAVENDISH STUART RUMBOLD, BART.



The death of this Baronet occurred at Nice on the 27th ult. Sir Cavendish had not completed his 38th year. He was son of the late Sir William Rumbold, third Baronet, by Henrietta Elizabeth, his wife, who was daughter of Thomas Boothby, 1st Lord Rancilife, and sister of the Princess de Polignac, wife of the well-known Minister of Charles X. of France. The first Baronet of the family was Sir Thomas Rumbold, Governor of Madras. Sir Cavendish having died without issue, the title devolves on his brother, now Sir Carlo Arthur Henry Rumbold, 5th Baronet.

RODERICK MACLEOD, ESQ., OF CADBOLL.

This gentleman, the Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Cromarty, died on the 13th ult., at his seat, Invergordon Castle, Ross-shire, in his 67th year. He was the only son of the late Robert Bruce Macleod, Esq., of Cadboll, M.P., and represented a distinguished branch of the eminent family of Macleod, of Lewis. He formerly sat in Parliament as Knight of the Shire for Sutherland.

By Isabella, his wife, daughter of William Cunningham, Esq., of Lainshaw, county of Ayr, he leaves, with other issue, a son and successor, Robert Bruce Macleod, Esq., now of Cadboll.

MR. OLIVER LANG.

MR. OLIVER LANG, master-shipwright at Woolwich Dockyard, who was quite well and cheerful on board the *Royal Albert* screw steam-ship and *Terrible* steam-frigate on Monday the 11th inst., inspecting the progress of those vessels, died suddenly at his official residence at one o'clock in the morning of the next day. Mr. Lang was seventy-five years of age, twenty-seven of which he served as master shipwright at Woolwich. He was a great favourite with George IV., and so pleased that Monarch when superintending some works at Virginia Water, that his Majesty offered to knight him, but Mr. Lang respectfully declined the honour. He also enjoyed the friendship of William IV., and he received numerous presents from the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, and the King of Denmark. Mr. Lang introduced a great number of improvements into the construction of ships and steamers: the strength of vessels of his construction is evident to all who have inspected the *Royal Albert*, 131, screw steam-ship, and the *Terrible* steam-frigate, both at present at Woolwich, the former nearly ready for launching. Mr. Lang was the first to design a steamer for the Royal Navy, and the *Comet* paddle-wheel steam-vessel, of 80-horse power, built under his superintendence at Deptford, is still in the service, and employed on the west coast of Scotland in protecting the fisheries.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.—The minute made by the Education Committee on the 2nd of April, cancels that of the 12th of June last. The effect of the new minute is, that, in case any difference arises in a school participating in the Parliamentary grant as to any regulation on religion, the matter is to be referred to, and to be decided by, the Bishop of the diocese; and in case any difference should happen in the Committee of Management, a request is to be made to the Lord President of the Council, and it is to be investigated, and arbitrators to be appointed.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. C. Calcutta.—The paper forwarded by the *Precursor*, though two months after date, came safely to hand, and we were much gratified by the triumph of our old and valued friend.

DERBYON, W. S. T., Mr. JELLYBY, T. J. of Wigan, TEE-TOTUM, NIBBLE, and others.—We were well aware that the solution in question was not satisfactory, and have communicated with the author on the subject.

RICARDO.—If we had four columns instead of one to devote to Chess, we might, possibly, give satisfaction to all our Correspondents on the point; but, as it is, we believe even Ricardo's ingenuity would hardly suffice to accomplish so desirable an object.

J. P. F.—Quite right.

T. J. of Hanworth.—A private communication has been forwarded, to save you trouble, and in its place.

J. P. is referred to our previous notice in the Number for March 25. The positions he sends, for the 55th time, are utterly destitute of everything required to constitute a fine Chess problem.

A. M. N.—A charming little subtlety; but, if we are not mistaken, it has already appeared in print.

J. C. W.—The board is too crowded. Can you not dispense with some of the machinery? It seems monstrously complex for so simple an object.

DANIEL.—It shall have insertion.

H. J. R., Southsea.—Your letter on "Chess Nomenclature" has been received, but we are too much pressed for space to insert it at this moment.

W. G., Edinburgh.—The defence is too feeble and incorrect. Send us some better specimen.

C. F. S.—We have marked the shorter one for insertion; the other lacks interest.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 479, by Spas, L. L. D., M. P., Ricardo, Ernest, Philz, J. P. F., Solitus, Persius, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 480, by Agnes, Mr. Jellyby, Jack of Shrewsbury, Ricardo, H. F. N., Deroyon, D. W. H., B. C. D., J. M. T., A. of Norwich, Stevens, B. A. of Cambridge, S. P. Q. R., O. P. Q., G. S., B. D., Ruzhig-loy, Sallor, Bombardier, H. B., G. F., W. W., Philz-Les, Mongo, Lelips, J. P., Alaric, 1853, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 481, by Jack of Shrewsbury, T. A. of Norwich, Philz Alaric, Ricardo, D. W. H., Deroyon, J. P. F., J. P., 1853, D. D., are correct. All others are wrong.

* * * Mr. Lucanthal's challenge to Mr. Harwitz shall appear, if possible, next week.

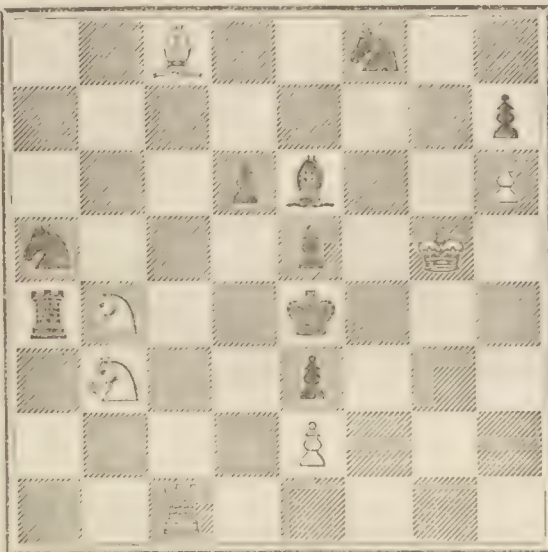
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 479.			
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K 3rd	P takes Q, or (a)	3. P to Q 6th (ch)	R takes P
2. B to K 5th	R to Q B 4th	4. B takes K P—Mate	
(a) 1.	Q P takes B P	3. P takes Q, becoming	K to Q 3rd
2. Q takes K R	Q takes R (best)	a Queen (ch)	
		4. R to Q B 6th—Mate	

If Black for his 1st move play P to Q 4th, White checks with his B at Q R 4th, and mates next move; or, if he take the P on Q B 5th with R, B takes K P (ch), and Q mates.

PROBLEM No. 481.

This elegant little Stratagem is the composition of R. B. WORMALD, Esq., of Oxford.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CONSULTATION GAME.

The following *partie* was played at the annual meeting of the Reading and Berkshire Chess-club, by Mr. Staunton, against some of the chief players of the Club in consultation together.

(Sicilian Opening.)

BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Allies.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Allies.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q B 4th	23. P to K 5th	Q R to K sq
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	24. Q to K B 2nd	Kt to K B sq
3. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to K 4th	25. Kt takes P	Q to her sq
4. B to Q B 4th	B to K 2nd	26. R to K R sq	Q to her 2nd
5. P to Q R 3rd	P to K R 3rd	27. Q to K B 3rd (c)	Kt to K 3rd
6. P to Q 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	28. Kt takes Kt	P to Q 5th (d)
7. Castles	P to Q 3rd	29. Kt to Kt 5th (ch)	P takes Kt
8. P to K R 3rd	Castles	30. K R P takes P	K to Kt sq
9. B to K 3rd	P to Q R 3rd (a)		
10. Q to Q 2nd	K to K R 2nd	31. Kt to K 4th	Q to Q 4th
11. Q R to Q sq	Kt to Q 5th	32. R takes R (ch)	B takes R
12. Kt to K R 2nd	P to Kt 4th	33. R to K R sq	B to K R 2nd
13. B to Q R 2nd	B to Q Kt 2nd	34. K to B 2nd	Q to her 2nd
14. P to K B 4th	P to Q B 5th	35. Q to K R 3rd	B takes Kt
15. B takes Kt	P takes B	36. P takes B	P to Q 6th
16. Kt to Q 2nd	Q to her Kt 3rd (b)	37. P to Q B 3rd (e)	R to Q sq
17. K to R sq	Q to Q 2nd	38. B to Q Kt sq	P to Q R 4th
18. K Kt to K B 3rd	K B to his 3rd	39. P to K B 5th	Q to Q R 2d (ch)
19. P to K R 4th	P to K Kt 3rd	40. K to B 3rd	P takes K B P
20. P to K R 4th	R to K R sq	41. Kt P takes P	Q to K 2nd
21. Kt to Kt 2nd	P to K Kt 2nd	42. P to K 6th	Q takes K P
22. Kt to Kt 2nd	P to Q 4th		

And Black mates in three moves.

(a) The careful preparation for battle required in the close openings makes them appear tedious when compared with the rapid onslaught which the Gambits admit; but the former have the advantage of affording opportunities for the development of all the forces on both sides before an attack begins, while in the latter the contest is often virtually decided in a moment before half the pieces are brought into the field.

(b) Threatening to advance their Q B Pawn, and, if Black take it, to win his Queen by discovering check.

(c) However annoying, Black is compelled to pause in his attack, to guard against the enemy obtaining an opening into his territory.

(d) They had better have taken the Kt off at once.

(e) Even at this moment it will be observed that some caution is necessary on Black's part, to preserve the advantage he has obtained. Taking the Q Pawn with Pawn would have been manifestly imprudent, on account of his opponents being then enabled to give check with their Queen at her 5th, and afterwards capture the Q Kt Pawn.

CHESS IN THE PROVINCES.

Lively Skirmish between Mr. LÖWENTHAL and Mr. SILAS ANGAS, of Newcastle.

WHITE (Mr. S. A.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)	WHITE (Mr. S. A.)	BLACK (Mr. L.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. K to Kt 2nd	R to K sq
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	14. Castles	P to K R 4th
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	15. Kt to K B 4th	P to K R 5th
4. K B to Q B 4th	B to K 2nd	16. Q Kt to K 2nd (b)	Q Kt to Q 2nd
5. Kt takes P	Kt to K B 3rd	17. B to K 3rd	Rt to K 4th
6. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt takes K P	18. Q R to Q sq	P to Q Kt 3rd
7. B takes K B P	K takes B	19. B to Q 4th	Q to Q B 2nd
(ch) (a)		20. Q to Q B 3rd	Q to K B 2nd
8. Q to K R 5th (ch)	P to K Kt 3rd	21. B takes Kt	B takes P
9. Q to Q 5th (ch)	P to Kt 2nd	22. Q takes Q B P (c)	B takes Kt
10. Kt takes Kt	P to Q B 3rd	23. Kt takes B	B to Q Kt 2nd
11. Q to Q Kt 3rd	P to Q 4th	24. Q to Q R 4th (d)	R to K 5th
12. Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	K B to his 3rd		

And Black wins.

(a) From this point, we consider White has a marked superiority in position.

(b) He might have obtained an overpowering attack by playing his Queen to her 3rd, instead of retreating the Q Kt.

(c) Capturing this Pawn was certainly imprudent.

(d) He should rather have played his Queen to Q B 3rd, giving check; even then, however, he would have had a difficult uphill game before him.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 809.—By H. W., of Wakefield.

White: K at K Kt 7th, Q at Q R 5th, R at K 4th, Bs at K R sq and K 3rd, Kt at Q B 3rd, Ps at K 6th and Q Kt 3rd.

Black: K at Q 4th, Q at Q B 3rd, B at Q Kt 5th, P at Q 3rd.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

No. 810.—Schachzeitung.

White: K at Q R 4th, Rs at K B 3rd and Q Kt 4th, Bs at K 4th and Q 5th, Kt at K B 6th.

Black: K at K R 5th, Q at K R 5th, R at K 5th, B at K sq, P at K R 4th.

White is in check; and, having to play at this moment, he gives mate in three moves.

THE RICHMOND CHESS-CLUB.—In our next we shall give some account of the opening meeting of this new society, which took place on Monday last, and passed off with complete success.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A very large fire took place in Cincinnati on the 28th ult., by which property to the amount of 50,000 dollars was destroyed.

Mr. Gibson, R.A., has completed his statue of Venus, at Rome, and aroused criticism by giving a slight flesh tint to the figure, blue eyes, yellow hair, and a delicately-coloured border to the drapery. There is much difference of opinion on this proceeding.

The Select Committee on Railway and Canal Bills have issued their fourth report. It is unfavourable to amalgamation.

Cheltenham is so full at the present moment, that the influx of visitors has put it to some of the inconveniences read of in Australia.

The ship *Abrona*, for Liverpool, was totally destroyed by fire, at the south-west pass, New Orleans.

The Society of the Friends of the Clergy has just obtained a valuable accession in the person of the Marquis of Salisbury, who has consented to become the president.

Mr. Thackeray delivered his last lecture in the southern states of America on the 19th ult. He announced that from that point he should retrace his steps towards the north, and thence to England.

The operative shoemakers of Leeds have demanded an advance of wages of at least 15 per cent, and, as this has been refused, they have struck work. The employers are paying 20 per cent more for leather than they lately did.

The *Tablet* of Saturday last publishes the "balance sheet of the Irish Tenant League," from which it appears that £599 were received to the 29th January, 1853. Amongst the items of expenditure is a sum of £28 17s. for deputations to Carlow and other places. The balance in hand is £52 6s. 2d.

On the 27th ult. a serious accident occurred on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, caused by a train running off the track, by which several persons were killed, and others injured.

Captain R. Baston, R.N., the late superintendent of the Royal Mail Steam-packets at Southampton, has resigned that situation, and retires on a pension of £200 per annum.

A young man named Poole, of Lincoln, lately, while examining an old box which his deceased partner had purchased at an auction, found notes to the value of £70, which had lain there for forty-eight years.

The promoters of the ship canal at Darien are encouraged by the success of their embassy to France. Official support by the French Government will be accorded to the project; and the Emperor has also given the positive assurance of more material aid.

There has been a great fire in Frederiksværn, in Norway; eighteen houses have been burned down.

The Imperial printing establishment of Vienna has just added to its typographical resources a set of Kalmuck types. By means of these, the wide researches of Professor Jülg in the Kalmuck language will shortly be given to the world.

The Prefect of Police at Paris has prohibited the use of colouring for sweetmeats, excepting Prussian blue, chalk, and ochre. He likewise cautions the public against the use of copper vessels.

A painter, named Rogers, aged twenty-two, of Little Chapel-street, Westminster, was observed, on Monday, to stagger in the street, and fall down. He was taken to a surgeon's, but life was extinct.

Lieutenant Warren, R.N., has been appointed Admiralty agent on the Southampton station.

From a return just obtained, it appears that the number of accounts of Stock in the Bank of England is 264,479; and the number in the name of two or more holders, 117,848.

There has lately been a great increase in the exportation of beer and ale, large quantities having been sent to Australia. In the last two months 65,174 barrels were exported, of the value of £198,291.

The cattle-show of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland, for 1854, is to be held in the province of Ulster, if the necessary pecuniary guarantee be given, and the required arrangements be entered into.

The seamen's strike at Ipswich is at an end, nearly all the ship-owners having complied with the demands of the men.

The Association formed for the purpose of promoting and promulgating the views and opinions of the friends of election by Ballot, have opened an office in the Strand.

The Royal Australasian Mail Steam Company have received notice from the Government of the withdrawal of their contract.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has created the tragedian, Emile Devrient, a Knight of the Order of La Maison-Ernestine. This is the first instance in Germany of the insignia of an order of chivalry being conferred upon an actor.

The Lectureship of Medical Jurisprudence in the Hunterian School of Medicine, has become vacant by the death of Dr. Richard Chambers.

The county of Dublin Grand Jury found a true bill of indictment on Monday against the mate of the *Queen Victoria* steamer, wrecked at the Howth lighthouse.

A terrible steam-boat disaster has occurred in Galveston Bay, Texas. The steamers *Neptune* and *Farmer* were racing to Galveston when the boilers of the latter exploded, killing the captain, clerk, steward, engineer, 13 of the crew, and 20 passengers.

Mr. George Ogley, of Barnsley, a working man, has invented a mode of manufacturing ladies' fancy stays without a seam.

The estimate for the restoration of the Prince of Wales's Tower, at Windsor Castle, just laid before Parliament, is £2000.

The *Sydney Empire* states that arrow-root, equal to that procured from the South Sea Islands has been prepared from some wild plants which grow abundantly near Sydney.

The subscription for a monument to Thomas Hood, having reached £460, has been closed. A bronze bust of the poet, on a granite pedestal, embellished with scenes from his writings, has been resolved upon.

Messrs. Stephenson and Co., Newcastle, are engaged upon a railway tubular bridge across the Nile. The trains are to run along the top of the tube. The line will be single, with a footway on each side.

An electro-telegraphic despatch from Marseilles, dated April 12, announces the arrival at that port of the *Calcutta* mail.

The demurrer in the case of Lumley v. Gye, relative to Mdle. Wagner, stands the third on the list for judgment by the Court of Queen's Bench, and is expected to be decided on the first day of term.

The postmaster of Whitechurch, Salop, named Cross (who was parish-clerk and sexton, and also an extensive draper, &c.), has been arrested for subtracting from letters, moneys, &c., to the amount of £2015. He was on his way to Liverpool, for either America or Australia.

The Government are about to take up the question of a reform of the Corporation of the city of London. A Commission of Inquiry is about to be appointed, whose labours will lay the foundation for a Ministerial measure.

The will of Admiral the Right Hon. Sir Bladen Thomas Capel, G.C.B., has been proved in London by Lady Capel, his relict, a power being reserved to the Earl of Essex, his nephew, and to John Drummond, Esq., the other executors. The personality was valued at £12,000. Lady Capel takes a life interest in the estates, and is the residuary legatee.

The late Stephen George Lushington, Esq., one of her Majesty's Commissioners of Customs, died possessed of personality amounting to £20,000, and has bequeathed to one of his sisters a legacy of £1000, and to another an annuity; appointing his brother, Charles Manners Lushington, Esq., sole executor and residuary legatee.

Henry Vernon Harcourt, Esq., late of Brampton-hall, Herefordshire, has bequeathed the whole of his estates, real and personal, to his widow, Lady Frances Vernon Harcourt, the personality being valued at £25,000.

Fine merino sheep at Buenos Ayres fetch 24s. a head; but sheep farmers consider it an exorbitant price. The average price for a good common sheep is only 15s. 6d.; and for the common kind (and in a lot), you pay not quite 3d. per head.

A young man who was formerly in the printing-office of the *Liverpool Courier*, but now in South Australia, has written home to say that he is at work upon the *Melbourne Argus*, at ten guineas per week.

Lord Aberdeen has appointed this day (Saturday), at one o'clock to receive the council of the Colonial and International Postage Association, upon the subject of reducing the colonial rates of postage to a uniform rate of threepence, instead of sixpence, as first proposed.

The shock of the earthquake of the 2nd instant was felt in the Isle of Wight. A letter from St. Servan, in France, states that the shock was most alarming there and that people remained up all night. It appears that the earthquake was limited to a portion of the English Channel comprehended between about 100 miles of the south-western coast of England and France, the superficial area of which is about 20,000 square miles.

The briskness of the building trades, added to emigration, is leading to a general advance of wages in Manchester; and the plasterers have succeeded in getting their earnings raised from an average of 26s. per week to 28s.

The Commissioners of Customs have called for a return of the quantity of foreign butter destroyed in bond in each year since the year 1844, with the dates of the several periods at which such destruction took place, and the quantity destroyed at each period.

At the meeting of the Royal Mail Steam-Ship Company, held on Thursday, a dividend at the rate of £2 per share for the half-year was declared.



THE MEET AT CROXTON PARK.

CROXTON PARK.
THE MEET.

LEICESTERSHIRE nobly maintains its ascendant rank in the scale of sport; recalling Nimrod's experience of Melton-Mowbray. "In no place upon the earth is *condition* in the hunter attended to with so much care, or managed with such skill, as in this renowned metropolis of the fox-hunting world. Indeed, we conceive it would be useless to expect horses to live with hounds in such a country as Leicestershire, unless they were in condition to enable them to contend for a plate."

On Monday, the 4th inst., the day before Croxton Park Races, the Duke of Rutland's celebrated pack of hounds met. The weather proved favourable, and there was a large attendance of sportsmen; and the meet (which our Artist has illustrated) was altogether of the most animating description to be enjoyed in this country—satisfying the most determined foxhunter with his day's sport.

CROXTON PARK RACES.

We always hail with pleasure the (to use a northern phrase) "gathering" at Croxton Park, a meeting at which more gentlemen and sportsmen are to be seen than at any other in the United Kingdom. We do not mean as to the numerical *quantum*, but as to the proportion of each to the numbers of those of far different pretensions. This may be readily accounted for by the number of races appointed to be ridden by gentlemen, a circumstance that (though it does not preclude) puts a strong check on the heavy betting incident to races of mere professional character. Thus the Ring never found Croxton sufficiently speculative for its purposes, and here and there we detected a few of its members; they showed themselves, for once, to be completely out of their element. Long may such meetings prosper, where love of sport is the leading star of its patrons. Far be it from us to prognosticate this meeting may ever lose its *prestige* on the score of the aristocracy of its company; but *certainly* this year there was no lack of professionals in the betting depart-

ment: whether they could not withstand the attraction of the Granby of this year, or the cheapness of the conveyance offered caused their presence, we know not, but they were there in somewhat unusual numbers. However, as a set off, aristocracy was there in unusual numbers also. For this we were probably, in great measure, indebted to the fickle month being in one of its best humours, and favouring us with the lately unusual treat of fine weather. Our space will not permit us to give more than a compressed summary of each race as it came off.

TUESDAY.

Farmers' Cup of 50, with 10 to go to the second horse; presented by the gentlemen of the Belvoir Quorn, or Cottesmore Hunts, for horses not thoroughbred, the property of and bred by farmers residing in the neighbourhood of the three Hunts, under certain qualifications—two miles. We say nothing of the artistical performance, but give the result.

Mr. G. March's, (junior), br. g. Wartnaby, by Drayton, 6 yrs., 12 st. .. (Mr. Hardy) 1
Mr. Vincent's br. h. Freetrader, 6 yrs., 12 st. 8 lb. .. (Owner) 2
Five others started. 6 to 1 against the winner. Won tolerably easy.

The Scurry Stakes, 5 sovs. each, with 25 added. Half a mile. 3 subs.
Lord Chesterfield's f. by Councillor, out of Miss Lucy, h. b., 5 yrs., 10 st., 4 lb., £40 .. (Mr. Berkley) 1
Mr. Goddard's Priam the Third, 4 yrs., 10 st. 6 lb., £40 (Capt. Little) 2
Count Batthyany's br. c. The Monk, 4 yrs., 10 st. 8 lb., £60 (Owner) 3
The winner was claimed.

The Granby Handicap, 20 sovs. each; h. ft., and 5 only if declared, &c. Granby course (about one mile and a half). 65 subs., 44 of whom paid 5 sovs. each.

Mr. Hunter's ch. g. Orpheus, by Orlando, 4 yrs., 10 st. 6 lb. (Mr. L. Evans) 1
Mr. Saxon's ch. g. Caurire, aged, 10 st. 10 lb. .. (Mr. Elwes) 2
Seven others ran.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each, with 50 added. For Two-year-olds. Half a mile. 7 subs.

M. J. Adkin's Contender, by Cotherstone, 8 st. 7 lb. .. (Thick) 1
Lord Wilton's c. c. by The Hero, d. by Touchstone .. (W. Howlett) 2
One other ran.

WEDNESDAY.

The Farmers' Handicap of 50 sovs. and 5 to second, for horses who saved their distance in each heat of the Farmers' Plate. Once round.

Mr. Vincent's b. h. Freetrader, by Gambol, 6 yrs., 11 st. 12 lb. .. (Capt. Hayworth) 1
Mr. W. Kirk's b. c. John Hamlin, 5 yrs., 9 st. 12 lbs. (M. C. Boynton) 2
One other ran.

The Belvoir Castle Stakes of 15 sovs. each, 10 ft., 40 added, for three-year-olds. One mile. Half-a-dozen subscribers.

Mr. Osborne's Grapeshot, by Alarm, 8 st. .. (J. Osborn) 1
Lord Chesterfield's b. c., by the Emperor, d. Begum, 8 st. 2 lb. .. (Flatman) 2
Won by a length.

The Croxton-park Handicap Plate, 100 sovs.; all ages. One mile.

Count Batthyany's b. g. Jack in the Corner, by the Conjuror (aged), 11 st. 1 lb. .. (Owner) 1
Hon. W. E. Duncombe's c. c. Alfred the Great, 4 yrs., 12 st. 7 lb. .. (Mr. C. Boynton) 2
Five others started. A very close race; won by a neck only.

The 50 Sovs. Cup in Specie, added to a handicap of 20 each, h. ft., and 5 only if declared: the winner to subscribe to the same plate and the Granby of next year, also paying 15 sovs. to the fund; 24 subs., 16 of whom declared. Two miles.

Mr. Saxon's c. g. Caurire, by David or Arthur (h. b.), aged, 10 st. 12 lbs. .. (Mr. Elwes) 1
Mr. Couchron's Smuggler Bill, aged, 10 st. 12 lbs. (Captain Heyworth) 2
Three others ran.

The Billesden Coplow Stakes, 3 sovs. each, 20 added; for horses or mares that have been *bona-fide* hunted with the Belvoir, Quorn, or Cottesmore since the 1st of January last. Once round. (5 subs.)

Captain Forrester's b. g. Kennington, by Slight-of-Hand, 12 st. 7 lbs. .. (Mr. Scobell) 1
Mr. J. S. Wheatley's b. f., Tom Jolly, 12 st. .. (Mr. C. Boynton) 2
Three others ran. This was a most hollow affair, Kennington winning as he liked.

The Granby was a rare turn-up for the fielders, Popham completely slipping Caurire at the stand. Like Weathergaze he had been sold as worthless, and was not in the present race backed.



CROXTON PARK RACES.



SITE OF THE MODEL LODGING-HOUSE, ERECTING BY THE GENERAL SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE DWELLINGS OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

SIR J. R. CARNAC, BART., M.P. FOR LYMINGTON.

THE name of Carnac is honourably associated with the history and administration of our Indian possessions; and, at a season when the whole Indian question must be thoroughly discussed, with a view to permanent legislation, it is well to find the present holder of that name returned as a representative to the House of Commons, there to take part in the coming deliberations, and lend the aid of his personal knowledge. We infer, indeed, that the object of Sir J. R. Carnac, in entering Parliament at the present time, is thus to devote his attention to a subject in which he is so largely interested; and that it was with the same views that he was chosen by the constituency of the mercantile community of Lymington.

The father of Sir J. R. Carnac represented the borough of Sandwich in 1837; and in the year 1838 was appointed to the Governorship of Bombay, a post which he continued to fill till the year 1841. It was only in the year 1836 that the baronetcy was conferred; and up to the time of the grandfather of the present holder of the title, the family name was Rivett. The Carnacs trace their descent from one Thomas Ryvet, of Tritton, in Norfolk, who lived in the thirteenth century; and in the year 1715 a more immediate ancestor filled the office of Mayor of



SIR JOHN RIVETT CARNAC, M.P. FOR LYMINGTON.

Derby. The present Baronet's grandfather assumed the name of Carnac, in addition to the patronymic.

Sir John Rivett Carnac, M.P., is the son of the late Sir James Rivett Carnac, the first Baronet, by Anna Maria, the eldest daughter of the late William Richards, Esq., of Penglais, Cardiganshire. He was born at Baroda, in the East Indies, in the year 1818; and his early associations, as well as his more recent experience, have contributed to qualify him for the duty of legislating on Indian affairs. After having gone through the usual preparatory training, he entered the army (in the 21st Foot), where he reached the rank of Lieutenant. The death of his father, in the year 1846, opened to him the succession to the baronetcy. In 1840, he had married Miss Anne Jane Sproule, the only child of Dr. Samuel Sproule, of the East India Company's service.

Sir J. R. Carnac has hitherto taken no very active part in public life. At the last general election he came forward as a candidate for the representation of Lymington, in opposition to the old and valued member for that borough, Mr. Mackinnon. The contest was a sharp one, as nearly every registered elector was polled. Sir John beat his antagonist by a large majority, polling 201 votes, while his present colleague, a former sitting member (Mr. Hutchins) polled 158, and Mr. Mackinnon only 139.

Sir John Carnac came forward on the Derby interest, professing himself a Conservative, but with some of those qualifying indications of Liberal tendencies which were adopted by the present Opposition when last appealing to the people. He was at all hazards prepared to give Lord Derby's Administration a cordial support; but, on the other hand, he expressed himself hostile to any grant of public money for the maintenance of the Roman Catholic religion. While professing his readiness to vote for a "well-digested" measure of parliamentary and legal reform, he also promised to support any measures for the relief of the shipowners and the agricultural interests generally, from the consequences of the too sudden repeal of the Corn and Navigation Laws. Upon these promises, backed by clever electioneering tactics, he was returned as a representative of the borough, and since he has been in Parliament he has consistently acted up to his engagements.

Sir John Carnac was, in 1852, appointed a Deputy-Lieutenant of Hampshire.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE DWELLINGS OF THE WORKING-CLASSES.

THIS important social measure is at present occupying a considerable share of the attention of the philanthropic public; and a very gratifying instance of which was manifested on Tuesday last. The scene of operation (which our Artist has depicted in the first of the accompanying illustrations) was, a short time since, a sadly-neglected portion of the wealthy parish of St. James, long known as one of the "rookeries" of the metropolis; namely, a piece of ground in the rear of the brewery of Messrs. Goding and Co., in Broad-street, Golden-square. Looking upon this picture, and contrasting it with the courtly associations of St. James's, we may well say what extremes of wealth and want meet in this great town! However, a great clearance has been made of the crazy buildings shown in the first Sketch; and upon the site the General Society for Improving the Dwellings of the Working-classes have for some time been at work. Here was, until lately, a quadrangle of wretched hovels, in which cows and pigs shared the occupancy with thieves and other abandoned characters both male and female, who demoralised and disturbed the whole neighbourhood by their drunken orgies and *fracas*. The hovels have been cleared away, the cattle and swine sent to more fitting quarters, and all that remains of the vile place is a fractional portion of the old corner public-house, once notorious for being the haunt of the worst of characters, and soon to pass away along with the other abominations. The new building will consist of a neat front elevation, with stone copings and three entrances; and will contain 68 separate residences, each consisting of three good rooms, with water, water-closets, and other domestic appliances. The

whole will be let at rents less than are at present paid for wretched accommodation; and an experiment which has already been made on a smaller scale in the district justifies the hope that the undertaking will be not only beneficial to the classes for whose use it is intended, but will combine profit with benevolent gratification for the Society.

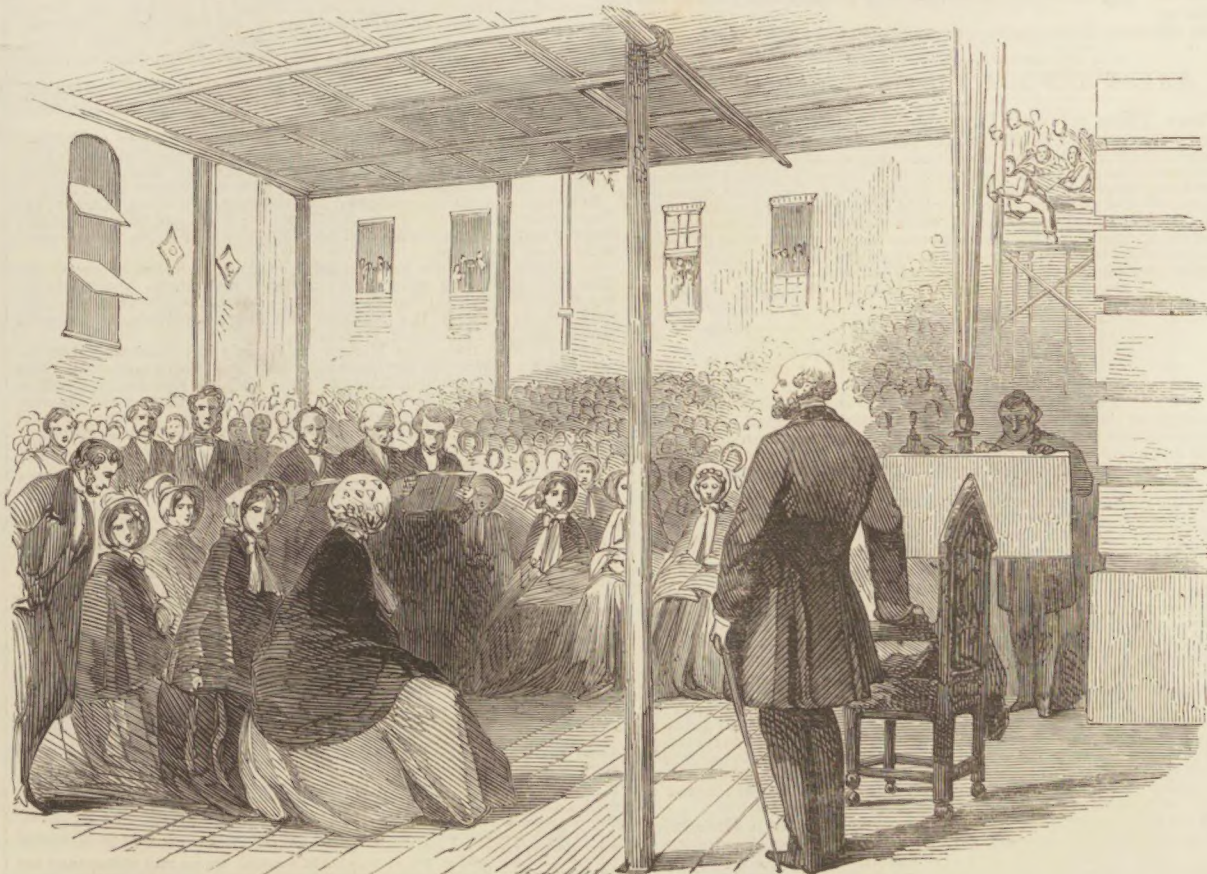
Tuesday last was the day fixed for the inauguration ceremonies at the new building in progress. By two o'clock, her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, Lady Blantyre, Earl Talbot, Viscount Ingestre, with several other members of the nobility had arrived; and, shortly after, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who had consented to lay the first stone. His Royal Highness was received with loud cheering by the crowds, who not only filled the enclosure, but also thronged all the approaches to the new works. The band of the 1st Life Guards was in attendance, and played frequently during the proceedings. The ceremonial (which our Artist has sketched) was commenced by the Bishop Elect of Lincoln (Rector of St. James's), who offered up an appropriate prayer; after which the children of the St. James's School sang the Old Hundredth Psalm—a remarkably fine effect being given to the music by the admirable accompaniment of the military band.

The usual deposit of coins was then laid on the stone, and a glass vessel, containing the following inscription:—"To the glory of God and the well-being of his creatures, these buildings, intended as a home for the families of the labouring classes, were erected by the General Society for Improving the Dwellings of the Working Classes, on a site once occupied by the most wretched hovels. The first stone was laid on the 12th of April, 1853, by the patron, H.R.H. George Duke of Cambridge, K.G. The Rev. J. Jackson, D.D., Bishop Elect of Lincoln, asked a blessing on the work; and Viscount Ingestre, president, and other members of the society, were present, together with Charles Lee, Esq., hon. architect."

After these preliminary preparations, and while the stone was being slowly lowered, Viscount Ingestre read an address to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, detailing the circumstances we have narrated, and concluding with these emphatic words:—

We feel that your Royal Highness, in thus inaugurating this great effort, is binding closer the ties which unite the different classes of our countrymen, whilst every recognition of the claims of labour adds lustre to exalted rank, and is a good omen for coming times. These buildings, designed doubtless long to survive those who reared them, will be one of the many monuments we bequeath to a future generation. They will show that whilst we left much still to be done, the ties of country and the bonds of brotherhood were not with us altogether an empty name. May your Royal Highness long be spared among us the honoured instrument of works of kindness, with which the name you bear has been long connected (Cheers).

His Royal Highness having listened with much attention to the



CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF A MODEL LODGING-HOUSE, IN NEW-STREET, GOLDEN-SQUARE.

address, bowed in acknowledgment of the special allusion to himself with which it terminated, and proceeded to the usual manipulations with a handsome silver trowel and mahogany mallet; and having tested the accuracy of his work by a scientific application of the plumb line, the stone was allowed to rest in its permanent location. The president, Viscount Ingestre, then briefly thanked his Royal Highness for his attendance, in the name of the society; after which his Royal Highness said:—

My Lord Ingestre, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It has afforded me the highest gratification to be permitted to lay the first stone of this good, and I hope it will ultimately prove, great undertaking. But a year since I took the chair at a preliminary meeting, and it is most satisfactory to me to see the progress that has been made in that short space of time (Hear, hear). I trust that our present ceremonial of laying the first stone will prove an earnest that the good work will be continued and extended as it has been begun, and thereby will conduce to the comforts and advancement, both here and hereafter, of numerous and deserving classes of our fellow-countrymen. I trust that it will continue to receive your steadfast and earnest support (Loud cheers).

His Royal Highness was again much cheered on his departure.

In the evening, the event of the day was celebrated by a dinner at the London Tavern, at which nearly one hundred and fifty noblemen and gentlemen were present. The Duke of Argyll, who ably filled the chair, was supported by Earl Talbot, Earl Jernyn, Earl Grosvenor, the Earl of Annesley, the Earl of Sheffield, Viscount Ingestre, Lord Emlin, Lord Dufferin, Lord Dynevor, Lord Hervey, the Right Hon. Sir J. Pakington, Bart., M.P.; Hon. W. Cowper, M.P.; Sir J. V. Shelley, M.P.; Mr. J. E. Denison, M.P.; Sir W. Fraser; Hon. F. Byng, &c. Mr. Disraeli had accepted an invitation to be present, but a sense of public duty compelled him to be present in the House of Commons during the debate on the abolition of Kilmainham Hospital.

The band of the First Life Guards was in attendance, and supplied the place of vocalists.

On the removal of the cloth, and after the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, Sir J. Pakington, in giving the health of the patron, the Duke of Cambridge, the Bishop elect of Lincoln, and all who had assisted at the ceremony of the morning, paid a graceful compliment to Viscount Ingestre. The part which this young nobleman has taken in the formation of this society had been already dwelt upon by the noble Duke in the chair; and Sir J. Pakington, having a strong regard for the noble Lord, and an old friendship for his family, could not refrain from expressing his satisfaction at the course he had taken. His young friend, he said, had nobly taken the path of virtue, and he would surely find it to be the path of honour.

The noble Chairman, in giving the toast of the evening, declared that the state of a great proportion of the population of our cities was more deplorable than the heathenism of Africa, and demanded more of the missionary spirit than might be required under the palms of India. A lady of his acquaintance had told him that, in her young days the condition of the poor never formed a topic of conversation with the higher classes; now they made strenuous exertions in their behalf, and such exertions had never such prospect of success as at present, because we had got hold of the right principle, and had ascertained the inseparable connection there existed between the physical and moral condition of the people. The plan of the society contemplated partly the erection of new, and partly the adaptation of old buildings; and in the parent society, presided over by Prince Albert, that plan had produced a profit of from 4½ to 5 per cent. This advantage had been secured, in addition to an enormous saving in the rentals of the poor; and therefore he trusted that such societies would spread, and be taken up by speculators solely on commercial principles. It was a great economic law that nothing could be permanently successful that was not self-supporting; but if the establishment of the society should be successful, it would achieve the great moral result of giving to all classes the blessing of a decent Christian home. His Grace concluded by giving "Success to the General Society for Improving the Dwellings of the Working-Classes." The toast was received with great enthusiasm.

Viscount Ingestre gave "The health of the Chairman," thanking his Grace warmly for his attendance that evening, and for his able advocacy of their cause. His Lordship also took occasion to acknowledge the support he had received from the metropolitan clergy, and from the Corporation of London.

Lord Dynevor, in giving "The health of Lord Ingestre, president of the institute," mentioned that the building would be open in September next, at a cost of £10,000, of which £5000 had already been received in the course of the past year.

Viscount Ingestre explained that the project had been first suggested by Lord Shaftesbury. Nobody would, without seeing it, believe the misery that existed in large towns. It was impossible to do much towards the moral improvement of the people until you first ameliorated their physical condition. It was of no use the clergy preaching or building churches until the people had first decent and Christian homes to live in.

Sir William Fraser gave the healths of the honorary officers of the society—Messrs. C. Lee, honorary architect; G. F. Smith, honorary solicitor; and the Rev. Messrs. Beames and Stamford, honorary secretaries; bearing warm testimony to the value of their various services. One of them (Mr. Beames) had written a book, "The Rookeries of London," which he recommended every one to read; and all had unhesitatingly given up their valuable time to the society. He believed that the undertaking would pay five per cent, and on that expectation he founded his hopes of its success.

Mr. C. Lee acknowledged the compliment, and stated that during the twenty-five years he had been in practice, the poor in London had been gradually growing worse. Every improvement had swept hundreds of them away, and it was the painful scenes he had himself witnessed in this way that had induced him warmly to promote the present undertaking.

The collection of the evening was announced to be nearly £800.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

FIRST TRIAL OF THE "DUKE OF WELLINGTON," 131, SCREW LINE-OF-BATTLE SHIP.—This magnificent war-steamer has more than answered the most sanguine expectations that could have been formed. Monday witnessed the largest war-steamer in the world doing an average of ten knots an hour: the best judges of what might have been expected from her did not give her more than nine; the general supposition was that eight knots would be her speed. She went out of harbour at 11.45 in fine style, against a strong flood-tide; and, having passed through Spithead, proceeded to the measured mile, when she realised the following gratifying results in six runs which she made there:—

Revolutions of engines.	Time in 4 hours.	Knots per hour.	Average of knots per hour.
1	29	5.43	10.495
2	30	6.16	9.957
3	31	5.28	10.975
4	31	6.23	9.999
5	29	5.23	11.143
6	29	6.37	9.063

The results of the above trial gives a mean average speed of 10.103 knots an hour—a highly satisfactory speed. The draft of water of the ship was 24 feet 3 inches afterwar, and 23 feet 5 inches forward. With her guns on board, and complete for sea, her draft will be 25 forward 26 aft. Mr. Abethell, the builder of the *Duke of Wellington*, and M. Dupuy de L'etie, the builder of the celebrated *Neptune*, were on board, and held a very friendly chat. Forty thousand people lined the whole way from the dockyard point, the bastions, lines, South-sea beach and common, to South-sea Castle. The cheering was immense.

NEW REGULATIONS AS TO CAPTAINS' SEA TIME.—By her Majesty's Order in Council, dated March 11, 1853, it is enjoined that the only exceptions to the provisions contained in art. 2, chap. 2, page 8, of the Queen's regulations shall in future consist as follows, viz.:—1. That a captain shall be allowed to reckon as time served at sea the period during which he may have been employed on surveying and other duties, provided that during such period he shall actually have had charge in command of some surveying ship or other sea-going vessel; and provided also that he shall have been borne for such service as additional captain on the books of one of her Majesty's rated ships. 2. That a captain superintendent of one of her Majesty's dockyards shall be allowed to reckon as time served at sea the period during which he may have been so employed; but time served by an officer as superintendent of one of her Majesty's victualling yards or hospitals will for the future be no longer allowed to reckon as equivalent to time served at sea.

MASTERS' ASSISTANTS.—The following boys from Greenwich School have received appointments as Masters' assistants in the Royal navy:—John Richards, W. F. Rowe, and G. W. Atkinson. This is a worthy distribution of Admiralty patronage, and it cannot fail to have a very beneficial effect on the school.

The reserve battalion of the 23rd Fusiliers, now in Canada, is under orders to embark for England.

Lieutenant-General Lord Raglan, Master-General of the Ordnance, and Lieutenant-General Sir John Burgoyne, Inspector-General of Fortifications, returned to town on Saturday last, from an inspection on the south-western coast.

Lieutenant-General Sir John Bell, K.C.B., is to retain the command of Guernsey and its dependencies for another year.

DEPOTS.—The following dépôts are held in readiness to move in the course of this and the ensuing month:—The 30th, from Dover to Cork; the 13th Light Infantry, from Jersey to Cork; the 31st, from Fermoio to Cork, en route to Bristol; 71st Light Infantry, from Cork to Chatham; and the 1st battalion Rifle Brigade, from Walmer to Dover.

COMMISSARIAT DEPARTMENT.—This estimate for 1853-54 has been issued. The total sum required to be voted for the expenses of the Commissariat Department during the ensuing year is £557,126, against £481,201 for the preceding one. The estimate comprises two votes—for the effective services, and for the non-effective services. For the former £511,887 is required for the present year, being an increase of £74,285 over the vote for 1852-53; for the latter £45,239 is required, against £43,509 in 1852-53. The total increase for both services for the year 1853-54, is £75,925.

LETTERS FOR THE ARCTIC SHIPS.—Letters for officers, seamen, and marines serving in the Arctic ships, will be in time for her Majesty's ship *Phoenix* if sent to the Admiralty before the 29th April.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The payment of the dividends having caused money to be more abundant, and some additions having been made to the amount of unemployed capital, rather an extensive business has been doing in Consols this week, chiefly on private account, and the quotations have had an upward tendency. For the next account, large transactions have been entered into, and most of the *Bulls* appear to have more than usual confidence as respects the future. The propositions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the conversion of the Three per Cents have met with pretty general approval, and the best test of their being favourably received is the extreme firmness of the market for Consols. Nominally, the amount of the debt will be increased; but, virtually, a large annual saving to the country will be effected. Supposing Parliament sanctions the three propositions, and fixes the amount of debt to which each might be applied, about ninety millions may be converted before the year 1854.

The demand for money has been very active, but we have no advance to notice in the rates of discount.

The Three per Cents were done on Monday, at 100½; the Three per Cents Reduced, 99½ to 100; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 100½. Long Annuities, 1860, were 6 1-16th. South Sea Stock marked 112½; ditto, Old Annuities, 98½; Exchequer Bills were 2s. to 7s. premium. Both on Tuesday and Wednesday the market was very firm, at fully the above quotations. On Thursday prices were on the advance, with a very firm market. The Three per Cents were 100½ for Money, and 100½ to 101 for the Account. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 100 to 100½; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter, 103½. Bank Stock, 226. Exchequer Bills, 2s. to 8s. premium.

The market for miscellaneous securities has been in a sluggish state. Australian Agricultural have been done at 88 to 92. Peel River, 5½ to 5½ pm.; Van Diemen's Land, 19 to 21; South Australian Land, 48 to 50; North British Australian, 1½ to 1½ pm.; Scottish Australian, 1½ to 2 pm.; Nova Scotia Mining, 1½ to 1½ pm.; Australian Coal, par to ½ pm.; Union Bank of Australia, 77 to 78; Bank of Australasia, 92 to 93; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 98 to 98 pm.; English, Scottish, and Australian, 1½ to 1½ pm.; Bank of India, China, and Australia, ½ to 1½ pm.; Great North Western, 1½ to 1½ pm.; Oriental Bank, 54 to 56 ex div.; British American Land, 76 to 78; Colonial Gold, 2 to 2½ pm.; Port Phillip, par to ½ pm.; Berlin Waterworks, 3 to 3 pm.; North of Europe Steam, par; Metcalfe Mining, 15 to 16 pm.; Port Royal Mining, 2½ to 3 pm.; Crystal Palace, 1½ to 1½ pm.; Union Bank of London, 17½ to 18; Royal Mail Steam, 76½; General Screw Shipping, 11½; General Steam Navigation Company, 30 ex div. and bonus; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, New, 46. East London Waterworks have sold at 165; London, 126 to 124½; St. Katherine's, 99½; Southampton, 89; Victoria, 68; Ditto, New, 4½; Canada Company's Shares have marked 62; Ditto, Six per Cent Bonds, 116; Ditto, Six per Cent, 187½. The foreign exchanges still continue against this country—gold being 0.48 per cent dearer in Paris, 0.47 per cent dearer at Hamburg, and 0.38 dearer at New York than in London.

Business in Foreign Stocks has not been extensive. Buenos Ayres have marked 61 to 62; Chilean Three per Cents, 82; Danish Five per Cents, 105½; Ecuador, 5½ to 6; Grenada Deferred, 11½; Mexican Three per Cents, 27½ to 28; Peruvian Three per Cents, Deferred, 64½ to 67½ ex div.; Portuguese Four per Cents, 40½ to 40½; Russian Five per Cents, 118½; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 104 to 104½; Sardinian, Five per Cents, 97½ to 98; Spanish Three per Cents, 47½ to 48; the New Deferred, 23½ to 24½; Spanish Committee's Certificates, 6½ to 7; Yorkshire Six per Cents, 34 pm.; Venezuela, 30½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 66 to 66½; and the Four per Cents, 97 to 97½ ex div.

The average weekly circulation of the private and joint-stock banks in England, during last month, was £6,665,396. These banks are below their fixed issues £1,400,210, although their circulation is now £584,423. The returns of the total note circulation of the United Kingdom, for the month ending on the 19th ult., show a decrease in the circulation of £988,553, compared with the previous month; but an increase of £9,471,545 compared with the same period in 1852. The stock of bullion in the Bank of England is £710,631 less than last year.

At length arrangements have been made by the Turkish Government to pay off the loan contracted in this country. The notification states that the bondholders are to be repaid, with an addition of bonus and interest, at the rate of 84 francs for every 1000 francs of nominal stock. The bondholders' committee has, consequently, been dissolved.

The exports of the precious metals have not been large; and we have had an arrival of £54,000 in gold from Australia, and 600,000 dollars from New York. Large supplies of bullion are about to be forwarded to Sydney and Port Phillip.

The demand for Railway Shares has been by no means active; prices, however—notwithstanding that the supply of Scrip on sale has somewhat increased—have ruled steady. The following are the official closing money prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 28½; Bristol and Exeter, 108½; Caledonian, 64½; East Lancashire, 73; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 74; Great Northern Stock, 83½; Ditto, B Stock, 124½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland) 109; Great Western, 92½; Lancaster and Carlisle, 92½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 76½; Ditto, Fifth, 11; London and Blackwall, 94; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 7; London and North-Western, 119½; London and South-Western, 90½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 30; Midland, 75½; Newmarket, 51; North British, 34½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 65½; South-Eastern, 78; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, G. N. E. Purchase, 8½.

SHARES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—East Lincolnshire Guarantees, Six per Cent, 153½; Hull and Selby Quarter Shares, 27½; Midland Bradford, 106½; Wear Valley, 35.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian (£10), 106; Chester and Holyhead, Five-and-a-Half per Cents, 19½; Eastern Counties Extension, Five per Cent, No. 1, 1½; Eastern Union, Scrip, Six per Cent, 18½; Great Western, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 107½; Ditto, Four per Cent, 101½.

FOREIGN.—Dutch Rhenish, 6½; Luxembourg, 7½; Ditto, Railway, 4½; Northern of France, 26; Paris and Lyons, 28; Paris and Strasbourg, 33½; Royal Swedish, 14; Sambré and Meuse, 9½; Upper India, Scrip, 8 pm.; Western of France, 20½.

In Mining Shares the business doing has been by no means large. On Thursday *Agua Fria* were 2½; Australian Freehold, ½; Ave Maria, ½; Brazilian Imperial, 5½; Carson's Creek, ½; Great North Western, 3½; Lake Bathurst, ½; Liberty, 1½; Mexican and South American, 8; Nouveau Monde, 2½; Port Phillip, 1½; Waller, 1½.

FRIDAY EVENING.—The Market for Consols has ruled very firm today, and the advance in the quotations has been freely supported. The Three per Cents have been done at 100½; ditto, for the Account, 100½ to 101; Three per Cent Reduced, 100; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 103½. The Unfunded Debt continues very inactive, at from 2s. to 10s. premium. Spanish Stock has met a very dull market; but most other foreign securities have commanded full prices. Railway Shares by no means active.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—During the week the arrivals of English wheat up to our market coastwise have been very moderate, viz. 220 quarters, almost wholly from Essex and Kent. Fresh up to-day the supply was limited, and the show of sample of both red and white was trifling; nevertheless the demand for all descriptions, owing to the heavy pressure of foreign flour, was in a very inactive state, at Monday's decline in value. For forward delivery next to nothing was doing. Rather over 8000 quarters of foreign wheat have come to hand. All kinds of the supply being good—ruled dull, at barely stationary prices. Floating cargoes commanded scarcely any attention. The show of both English and foreign barley was very moderate, whilst the trade ruled tolerably firm, at previous rates. The malt trade was less active, owing to the large arrivals. In prices, however, no change took place. We had a steady demand for oats, at extreme quotations. Beans, peas, and flour met a dull inquiry.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 2200; barley, 2000; malt, 9520; oats, 2710; flour, 3550. Irish: oats, 4150. Foreign: wheat, 200; barley, 3000; oats, 1500; flour, 5000; malt, 11070 barrels. *English.*—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 41s. to 41s. 6d.; ditto, white, 40s. to 40s. 6d.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 37s. to 37s. 6d.; ditto, white, 36s. to 36s. 6d.; rye, 28s. to 28s. 6d.; grinding barley, 27s. to 27s. 6d.; distilling ditto, 27s. to 27s. 6d.; malt, 32s. to 32s. 6d.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 25s. to 25s. 6d.; brown ditto, 48s. to 48s. 6d.; Kingston and Ware, 37s. to 37s. 6d.; Chaghal, 32s. to 32s. 6d.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 17s. to 17s. 6d.; potato ditto, 20s. to 20s. 6d.; Youghal and Cork, black, 16s. to 16s. 6d.; ditto, white, 17s. to 17s. 6d.; tick beans, new, 31s. to 31s. 6d.; ditto, old, 30s. to 30s. 6d.; grey peas, 30s. to 30s. 6d.; mangle, 23s. to 23s. 6d.; white, 30s. to 30s. 6d.; bolton, 27s. to 27s. 6d. per quarter. Town-made flour, 35s. to 44s.; Suffolk, 32s. to 33s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 31s. to 31s. 6d. per 280 lb. Foreign: French flour, 31s. to 38s. 280 lb.; American, 21s. to 21s. 6d. per barrel.

Seed Market.—Clover seed moves off slowly, on lower terms. All other seeds, including onions, are very dull.

LINSEED.—English, sowing, 54s. to 58s.; Baltic, crushing, 47s. to 50s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 40s. to 40s. 6d.; hempseed, 32s. to 41s. per quarter; Coriander, 9s. to 12s. per bushel. Mustard-seed, 7s. to 9s.; white ditto, 7s. to 9s.; and tares, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, new, £21 to £24 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 18s. to 19 10s.; ditto, foreign, £7 10s. to £9 10s. per ton. Rape cakes, £4 10s. to £5 per ton. Canary, 40s. to 42s. per quarter. Red clover, 40s. to 41s.; white do, 52s. to 58s. per cwt.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 44s. 9d.; barley, 31s. 4d.; oats, 18s. 9d.; rye, 21s. 10d.; beans, 34s. 5d.; peas, 32s. 10d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 45s. 1d.; barley, 31s. 8d.; oats, 18s. 8d.; rye, 31s. 3d.; beans, 34s. 5d.; peas, 32s. 8d.

English.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tra.—At public sale, this week, 1210 packages of green tea have been offered, and chiefly

disposed of, at very full prices. The demand privately is steady, at extreme quotations, the lowest value of common sound congon being 10½d. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 9,108,322 lbs., against 11,661,175 ditto in 1852.

Sugar.—The supplies of raw materials brought forward, this week, have not been extensive, yet they have proved quite equal to the demand. In prices we have no change to notice. Fine yellow Barbadoes has sold at 38s.; mid. to good, 35s. to 37s.; low, 31s. to 31s. 6d.; low to mid. ye low Mauritius, 34s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; good to fine, 36s. to 37s. 6d.; brown Mauritius, 27s. 6d. to 29s. per cwt. Refined goods move off slowly, at from 45s. to 48s. 6d. per cwt. The total clearance to the 9th instant was 1,586,415 cwt., against 1,644,107 ditto in 1852.

Coffee.—Our market is flat, and prices are barely supported. Good old native Ceylon, new import, is quoted at from 47s. to 48s. per cwt.

Rice.—The demand is heavy, and prices have given way fully 3d. per cwt.

Provisions.—Irish butter is in moderate request, at very irregular prices. In foreign but little business is doing. English parcels support previous rates, fine weekly Dorset being quoted at from 10s. to 10s. 6d. per cwt., and fresh, 10s. to 10s. 6d. per dozen lbs. Bacon steady, and quite as dear as last week. In lard, and most other kinds of provisions, comparatively few transactions can be reported.

Tallow.—The demand is steady, and prices are well supported. P.Y.C. on the spot, is selling at from 45s. 3d. to 45s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow, 45s. per cwt., net cash; rough fat, 2s. 6d. per 8 lbs.

Oils.—Generally speaking, our market is heavy, at drooping currencies. Linseed, 23s. 6d. per cwt.

Spirits.—The demand for all kinds of rum is in a depressed state, and prices have a downward tendency. Proof East India, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d.; Leeward, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.; and Havannah, 1s. 9d. per gallon. Brandy, the imports of which are extensive, moves off slowly, on easier terms. No change in the market rates. Much corn is being sold.

Wool.—Our market is firm, and the quotations are well supported.

Potatoes.—The arrivals having been on the increase, the trade is less active, and prices are drooping. The top figure for the best York Regents is 160s. per ton.

Coal (Friday).—Hartford, 17s. 3d.; Lawson, 18s. 6d.; Hiddell, 17s.; Eden Main, 18s.; Bell, 18s.; Hettton, 18s.; Haswell, 18s. 3d.; Stewart's, 19s.; Cassop, 18s. 3d.; Kelloe, 18s. 6d.; Tees 20s. 10s. per ton.

Hops (Friday).—Our market is very scantily supplied with all kinds of hops. Really fine parcels are in fair request, at very full prices. In other kinds only a limited business is doing. Mid and East Kent pockets, 126s. to 160s.; Weald of Kent ditto, 115s. to 125s.; Sussex ditto, 160s. to 115s. per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—The supply of beasts in to-day's market being very moderate, and the weather favourable for slaughtering, the best trade ruled firm; and, in some instances, the quotations had an upward tendency, the prime Scots having realised 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. We were fairly supplied with sheep, in which a steady business was transacted, and prices were a shade higher than on Monday, prime old Downs, in the wool, being worth 5s. 4d. per 8 lbs. From the Isle of Wight 100 lambs came fresh to hand—the receipts from other quarters were on the increase. The lamb trade ruled firm, at very full prices. Pigs sold steadily, on former terms. Calves moved off freely, at higher rates. Milch cows were in improved request, at from 15 10s. to 19 10s. each, including their small calf.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large oxen, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime Scots, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; prime coarse-wooled ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; prime South Down ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; large hogs, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 8d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; lambs, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; suckling calves, 20s. to 24s.; and quarter old store pigs, 18s. to 21s. each. Total supplies: Beasts, 622; cows, 120; sheep and lambs, 5820; calves, 200; pigs, 320. Foreign: Beasts, 198; sheep, 1600; calves, 103. Scotch: Beasts, 15.

Leadenhall (Friday).—A full average business was transacted, on the following terms:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d.; middling ditto, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; prime large ditto 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 10d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; prime ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; small pork, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; lamb, 4s. 10d. to 6s. 4d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12.

ADMIRALTY, APRIL 8.

Corps of Royal Marines: First Lieutenant and Adjutant G. W. Forbes to be Captain, vice H. D. Erskine; First Lieutenant E. C. Donville to be Adjutant, vice Forbes; Second Lieutenant N. J. H. Douglas to be First Lieutenant, vice Forbes; Second Lieutenant J. R. Lloyd to be First Lieutenant, vice R. F. Tucker.

BANKRUPTS.

M. SAMUEL, Castle-street, Houndsditch, dealer in watches. G. HODGE, Titchhurst, Sussex, builder. W. S. OAKE, Longditch, Poole, painter. F. ROLFE, Great Marlborough-street, Middlesex, tailor. J. and J. LEGGIE, Marlborough-road, Brompton, and Churton-street, Belgrave-road, Finsbury, cabinet-makers. W. MARSON, Wolverhampton, draper. J. SCOTT, Nottingham, grocer. W. L. M. ALLEN, Alford, Yorkshire, common brewer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.

ANNE M'KAY, Dornoch, Sutherland, merchant. J. RUSSELL, Stratton House, Slaman-nan, Stirling, wright, builder, and carpenter.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

C. GREEN, Spalding, Lincolnshire, scrivener.

BANKRUPTS.

J. WHITE, Charles-street, Tottenham-court-road, draper. E. BLAKELY, Conduit-street, Regent-street, linen-draper. R. CHINEY, Withershall, Suffolk, brewer. F. ROSEN-BOURG, Freetown-street, Horsleydown, distiller. H. N. GINDEL, Fountain-gardens, Lambeth-walk, licensed victualler. W. MARSH, Dudley, Worcester, beer-seller. E. GOLD-SMITH, Nottingham, tailor. R. STEPHENS, Truro, draper. W. AKTINGSTALL, Pendleton, Lancashire, joiner. D. DUNGLINSON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, victualler.

BIRTHS.

On the 14th of March, at Varna, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel E. St. John Neale, her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Bulgaria, of a son.

On the 7th instant, at 7, Grove-terrace, Loughborough-road, North Brixton, the wife of James Ives, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 8th inst., in Guildford-street, Lady Pollock, of a daughter.

On the 7th inst., the Lady Francis Lindsay of a son.

On the 9th inst., at 28, Queen-street, Edinburgh, the Lady Blanch Balfour, of a son.

On the 8th inst., at Enfield, the wife of the Rev. J. M. Heath, of a daughter.

On the 4th inst., at No. 1, Cumberland-terrace, Regent's-park, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Pacey, of a son.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS THEATRE.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Macbeth; Tuesday, Anna Blake; Thursday, The Corsican Brothers; and Saturday, Sir Cupid; or, Dorothy's Fortune; and the new drama of Marco Spada every evening.

FRENCH PLAYS.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.—THIS EVENING, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, M. Bayard's Comedy of ANDRE, Marteau, by M. Lafont. With other Entertainments. The performances on Saturday invariably terminate before eleven o'clock. Le Chevalier de St. George's will be produced next week, at which Middle, Page and Moss, Lafont will perform.—Boxes and Stalls at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library; and at the Box office.

ROYAL SOCIETY of MUSICIANS.—EXETER HALL.—Under the Patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN and His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT.—Hansell's Oratorio, the MESSIAH, will be performed in Aid of the Funds of this Institution, on FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 22. Conductor, Mr. Costa. Principal Vocalists.—Mme. Clara Novello and Miss Louise Pyne, Miss Williams, and Miss Dolley. Miss Bassano, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Formis. The Band and Chorus (kindly assisted by the Sacred Harmonic Society) will consist of the first lot in the metropolis, and will comprise nearly 700 Performers.—Tickets, 2s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be had at the office of the Sacred Harmonic Society, 6, Exeter Hall; and of the principal music-sellers. JOHN A. IRELAND, Secretary.

MUSICAL UNION.—H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT, Patron. TUESDAY, APRIL 19th. WILLIS'S ROOMS.—Quartet, B flat, No. 3. Mozart. Trio, C minor, Piano, and Mr. Lockey, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Formis. The Band and Chorus (kindly assisted by the Sacred Harmonic Society) will consist of the first lot in the metropolis, and will comprise nearly 700 Performers.—Tickets, 2s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be had at the office of the Sacred Harmonic Society, 6, Exeter Hall; and of the principal music-sellers. JOHN A. IRELAND, Secretary.

SIGNOR and MADAME FERRARI beg to announce that their ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the MANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 2nd, to commence at Eight o'clock. Vocalists: Miss Bassano, Miss Kathleen Fitzwilliam, and Madame Ferrari; Messrs. Hanson, W. Stenford, and Signor Ferrari. Instrumentalists: Piano, Mr. W. Stenford; Violin, Mr. W. Dorrell; Violoncello, and Herr Pauer; Concertina, Signor Giulio Regondi; Violin, Mr. Watson; Violoncello, Signor Platt. Conductors: Messrs. Frank Mori and W. Dorrell.—Tickets, 7s. each, to be had at the principal Music-sellers; Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d., to be had only at Signor FERRARI'S residence 68, Upper Norton-street, Portland-place.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC every Evening, at Eight o'clock (except Saturday). Stalls, 3s., which can be secured at the Box-office every day, from Eleven to Four. Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. A Morning Performance every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

ROYAL HOUDIN.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—THIS EVENING, SATURDAY, APRIL 16th; Tuesday Evening, 19th; Wednesday Morning, 20th; Thursday Evening, 21st; Saturday Morning, 23rd. Doors open—Morning at Two; Evening at Eight. Stalls, 7s.; Boxes, 4s.; Pit, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS will open their NINETEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION on MONDAY, the 15th inst., at Four o'clock till Dusk, at their GALLERY, 55, Pall-mall. Admission, 1s. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. PHOTOGRAPHIC SCHOOL. The spacious Plate Glass House, with the Class Rooms, and Ladies' Apartment, being nearly completed, Classes or Private Lessons, embracing all branches of Photography, will commence May 2nd, 1853, for Gentlemen, and May 3rd, for Ladies.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK. are OPEN to Visitors daily. The only living specimens of CHEIROPODAMUS in Europe. Admission, 1s.; Mondays, 6d.

MADEIRA COLLEGIATE SCHOOL for the Board and Education of Boys and Youths in delicate health.—The climate of Madeira is the finest in the Northern Hemisphere. There is no place with which I am acquainted where the pulmonary invalid could reside with so much advantage during the whole year as Madeira.—Sir James Clark. "Hundreds of weakly boys might be reared in Madeira, who would inevitably perish in a climate like that of Great Britain."—Dr. Ross, of Madeira. "I think the scheme is a most excellent one, and one in which medical men are much interested as it will overcome the reluctance of many parents to send their children at a sufficiently early period lost their education should be interfered with."—Dr. Dickson.—Prospectuses lie at 53, Baker-street, Portman-square.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. Enroll d under 6 and 7 William 4, c. 32. Established for the purpose of aiding members of all classes in obtaining the Franchise in all Counties, and as an excellent mode of investment. Trustees: Viscount Ranelagh, the Hon. Colonel Lowther, M.P.; W. Thompson, Esq., M.P.; Alderman and J. C. Cobbold, Esq., M.P. At the Public Drawing in Freemasons'-hall, last MONDAY, APRIL 11th, 1853, amongst all the uncompleted Shareholders not entitled by previous drawing, or by seniority, the following Rights of choice on the Society's Estates were drawn:—2010, 3011, 44, 45, 46, 723, 271, 243, 192, 62, 2353, 3388, 1582, 2327, 2274, 1664, 534, 835, 836, 1697, 1698, 1699, 1928, 2233, 2334, 2335, 222, 286, 671, 2153, 2154, 2155, 1315, 3000, 1076, 1078, 971, 972, 973, 766, 3376. Share No. 174 was also drawn, but the holder thereof being in arrears, lost the benefit thereof. The next Public Drawing for Rights of choice on the Society's Estates will take place on SATURDAY, the 14th of MAY, at the Office, 23, Norfolk-street, Strand, which are open from Ten to Five, except on Monday and Friday, and then from Ten to Eight. Shares, £50; Entrance Fee, 2s. 6d.; Quarterage, 1s. per share; Monthly Payments, 8s. All Persons taking Shares on or before the 13th of May, will be entitled to participate in the drawing of the 14th. No Restriction on the number of Shares held by one Member. Interest allowed on Completed Shares, and on payments in Advance of a year's subscription and upwards. No liability on the part of the Shareholders beyond their Subscriptions, which may be paid monthly, quarterly, yearly, or at once in full. Price of a paid up Share, nothing the holder to be placed immediately on the Order of Rights, to choose an allotment, 2s. 6d. From 1s. per may be had of CHARLES LEWIS GRUNSEIN, Secretary.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. FIVE BONUSSES have been declared; at the last in January, 1853, the sum of £131,125 was added to the Policies, producing a Bonus varying with the different ages from 24½ to 55 per cent on the Premiums paid during the five years, or from £5 to £12 10s. per cent on the Sum Assured.

Small share of Profit divisible in future among the Shareholders being now provided for, the ASSURED will hereafter derive all the benefits obtainable from a Mutual Office, WITHOUT ANY LIABILITY OR RISK OF PARTNERSHIP.

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CLAIMS paid thirty days after proof of death, and all Policies are Indisputable, except in cases of fraud.

The last year's Report (just printed) can be obtained free of GEORGE H. PINCKARD, Resident Secretary, 95, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS, PAINTINGS, AND PRINTS.—MR. NEWBORN will sell by Auction, on the premises, BARNBURY COTTAGE, Richmond-road, Islington, on MONDAY, APRIL 14th, and the four following days, twelve o'clock precisely, on account of the number of lots, the matchless collection of DRAWINGS, &c., of the late John Harvey, Esq., by order of the Executors, comprising first-rate specimens of the following eminent artists, viz., Allom, Austin, Barrett, Bentley, Cooper, Calow, Cox, Chambers, Catmoull, Dewint, Daniell, Fielding, Copley, Goldin, Hills, Hunt, Holland, Haring, Havell, Landseer, Lewis, Kneller, Owen, Pyne, Poole, Robinson, Taylor, J. M. W. Turner, Topham, Vickers, Wright, Westall, Wright, West, and a vast quantity of equally important specimens. Descriptive catalogues, 6d. each; or, by post, for 10s. stamps; of Mr. Newborn, Auctioneer and Valuer, 8, Church-row, Upper-street, Islington, opposite Theberton-street.

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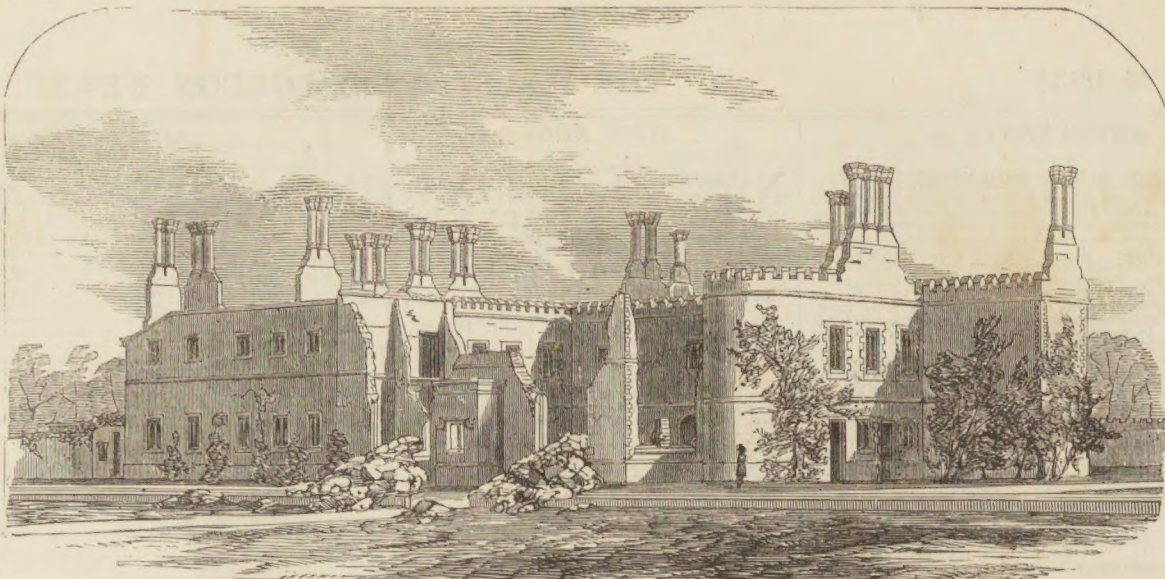
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LE PAGE

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT HUNSTANTON-HALL, NORFOLK.

THE partial destruction of this fine ancestral seat, on the 5th inst., was noticed in our Journal of last week. Hunstanton is a pleasant village on the coast, about eighteen miles from Lynn. The Hall, the seat of Henry Le Strange Stylesman Le Strange, Esq., though not an entire baronial mansion, boasted of considerable antiquity. It was built of coursed rubble-work of the deep brown stone of the neighbourhood, and presented the appearance of a collegiate edifice; its clustering chimneys adding greatly to its picturesque effect in the landscape. The east front was approached from a large fore-court, bounded by embattled walls, having a fine archway over the drive, which is continued along a small bridge crossing a rivulet, and giving the mansion the appearance of standing in a moat. This drive leads through the principal gateway to the enriched entrance-door, which is placed on one side of the inner court or quadrangle. The east front and wings were erected in the reign of Henry VII., by Sir Roger Le Strange, whose arms, with those of his wife, are sculptured on the great arch. The west front of the Hall, the portion just destroyed, was, probably, of a later period than the above: the exterior presented three gables towards the inner court, as well as towards the garden, and two gables at each of the return ends; all surmounted at the foot and at the apex by a ball or other terminal. The Hall, having fallen into dilapidation, was restored and enlarged by the present owner, at great expense, in 1837. The surrounding grounds are finely wooded, and opposite the



HUNSTANTON HALL, NORFOLK.—WEST FRONT, AFTER THE RECENT FIRE.

posited valuable papers; the state bed-room, the "Priest's room," &c. The accompanying illustration, from a sketch by a Correspondent, shows the west front of the Hall, as it appeared soon after the fire. The devastation has been very extensive; for, although the mansion was very spacious, the existing wings and east front appear but as a skeleton in contrast with the blackened ruin to which the fairest and best portion of the Hall has been reduced. A good view of the remaining east front is given in the "Excursions in Norfolk," 2 vols. 8vo.

The exertions of all classes in saving much valuable property from the flames deserve special praise: in some instances they greatly periled their lives in their efforts. It is highly creditable to Mr. John Rolfe, the

field to commemorate by some public testimonial the genius and integrity of their fellow-townsmen, Ebenezer Elliott, the "poet of the poor." Such a distinction was well earned, as will be seen by reference to the Sketch of Elliott's eventful life in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 403. Accordingly, the erection of a statue was resolved on, and the model is now complete.

The figure is to be cast in bronze; its height is about seven feet six inches. It will be placed on a pedestal of Penryn granite, of from seven to eight feet high, and will occupy a prominent position in the town of Sheffield, in the front of the new Post-office. The name of the sculptor is Neville Burnard, and it is expected that the statue will be completed by Midsummer next.

SCHOOLS LATELY ERECTED AT OULTON PARK.

THE accommodation afforded by the old schools at Oulton Park not



SCHOOLS LATELY ERECTED AT OULTON PARK, CHESHIRE.

proprietor of the fire-engines, through which Hunstanton has been in part preserved, that they are kept in constant readiness, and are tested every three months; Mr. Rolfe himself undertakes the superintendence of the engines, and they have been the means of saving much valuable property in the neighbourhood. One of the engines, though small (but, therefore, more portable), throws one hundred gallons, and the other forty gallons, of water per minute. They were built by Willett, of Lynn.

STATUE OF EBENEZER ELLIOTT, "THE CORN-LAW RHYMER."

Soon after the death of Mr. Elliott, at the close of 1849, it was proposed by the people of Shef-

being sufficient for the requirements of an increasing population, the above structure has been erected by the liberality of Sir Philip de Malpas Grey Egerton, Bart. The style adopted is the later period of Early English, which prevailed during the reign of Edward I., from designs by Mr. C. Vickers, of London. The material employed is a red sandstone, procured from a quarry in the neighbourhood; the quoins and dressings are of freestone. The east or principal front is lighted by windows of three lights, with trefoiled heads. The northern gable contains a large window of three lights, the upper portion pierced with a quatrefoil; the cusps foliated; and the whole surmounted by a dripstone, with enriched corbels. The quatrefoil is filled with stained glass, representing the crests of the Egertons. Above this is a small bell-cot. In the southern gable is a window of design corresponding to the northern. The entrance is by a corridor, connecting the new School with the old one, and lighted on either side by three small couple-light windows of stained glass. The doorways are plain-pointed arched, the jambs being simply splayed, and without weather-tables. Adjoining the School is a house for the school-mistress. The Schools accommodate 200 children.

STATUE OF THE LATE EBENEZER ELLIOTT, "THE CORN-LAW RHYMER," TO BE
ERECTED AT SHEFFIELD.

west front is a beautiful terrace walk, approached by a flight of steps, reminding one of the Elizabethan pleasure.

The interior of this noble edifice was rich in tapestry of great beauty and value, fine oaken paneling, carved mouldings, chimney-pieces, and doorways; with a grand staircase of corresponding magnificence. The principal rooms (including the State Bed-chamber wherein Queen Elizabeth once slept), were sumptuously furnished; and the walls were hung with family portraits and other pictures.

It is curious to observe how many fine old mansions have, at various times, been burnt through the airing of bedding; and Hunstanton Hall must be added to the long list. The family were absent on the Continent; when, early on Monday morning, the 4th inst., a fire was lighted in one of the south attics for airing blankets and bedding, and it was kept burning briskly throughout the day, until seven in the evening; all the articles aired were, however, kept at a reasonable distance from the fire, which the housemaid saw properly extinguished before she retired for the night. Still, the conflagration must have originated in this room. The two servants in charge slept at a distant part of the house. At about six o'clock on Tuesday morning some workmen engaged on a new building in the neighbourhood of the Hall discovered flames issuing from the attics in the south and west fronts; one of which the housemaid, on being aroused, found a burning mass. A messenger was immediately despatched with horses to Heacham for the engines belonging to Mr. John Rolfe—between which time and their arrival, nearly two hours elapsed. Meanwhile, the neighbouring gentry, farmers, and labourers arrived in great numbers, and removed much valuable property from the mansion: the flames, however, spread with fearful rapidity from room to room on the upper floor, and by the falling of the burning timbers, communicated to the rooms below. It should here be mentioned that as soon as the intelligence of the fire reached Heacham, Mr. Rolfe, and his three men accustomed to work the engines, in three minutes started for the scene of the conflagration, which they reached when the whole of the south front was in flames. Upon this portion Mr. Rolfe set the engines to play, and the supply of water from the rivulet being plentiful, the fire was confined to the south portion of the Hall, and the wings and east front were preserved. The flames continued to rage from six to twelve at noon, by which time they were greatly subdued. Fortunately, the weather was fine; and the furniture, books, and pictures, which had been removed to the lawn, were little injured: the paintings were subsequently deposited in the church, and the furniture in the neighbouring barns.

The west front of the Hall, which has been entirely destroyed, contained on the ground floor, the dining-room, the "tenants'-hall," with its armour and stained glass; the "walnut-room," a costly staircase, and the library; above was the suite of rooms, including Mrs. Le Strange's apartment, hung with beautiful tapestry—the ball-room or museum; and over these rooms were the attics. The wings of the east or entrance-front, which have been preserved, include the best drawing-room, richly carved throughout; the evidence or muniment-room, in which were de-



EXHIBITION OF A 42LB. NUGGET OF GOLD, AT MELBOURNE.—(SEE PAGE 294.)